Daily Report

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Cuba

Hungary's Berecz Visits 30 Sep-5 Oct

LD052329 Budapest MTI in English 2004 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Havana, October 5 (MTI)—Nanos Berecz, member of the Political Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and secretary of the Central Committee, paid an official friendly visit to Cuba from September 30 to October 5 on the invitation of the Cental Committee of Communist Party of Cuba.

The HSWP Central Committee secretary held cordial talks with Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba.

He exchanged views with Jorge Risquet, member of the CPC Politicial Committee, secretary of the Central Committee, and Carlos Aldana and Lionel Soto, secretaries of the Central Committee. The talks were attended by Istvan Bognar, Hungarian ambassador to Cuba.

During the talks Janos Berecz informed the Cuban leaders on the Hungarian experience of socialist building work and the advance programme of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. He held discussions on possibilities for the further development of interparty cooperation and on international issues.

In Havana Janos Berecz visited economic, scientific and cultural organizaitons, and gave a lecture at the college of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba.

On Monday Janos Berecz left Havana.

Castro Addresses Legislative Session

FL030136 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1234 GMT 29 Sep 87

["Summary" of 28 September meeting of the National Assembly of the People's Government first regular period of sessions at Havana's Palace of Conventions—recorded]

[Text] The deferred meetings of the first regular period of sessions of the third legislature of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] are being held at the Palace of Conventions with our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, in attendance. This period of sessions is a continuation of the one held in mid-July. The ANPP approved the bill on the new highway and traffic code designed to gather into one document all the regulations related to the matter and incorporates matters that were not included in the previous law.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro condemned those drivers who, risking their own lives and that of others, drink alcoholic beverages or speed.

[Begin Castro recording] It is simply impossible to send to jail everyone who incurs one of those violations. We would have to ignore the reality of its implications in today's world. Potential danger cannot be punished. Undoubtedly, many would say: This guy deserves to be killed. Look what he did. He drank 3, 4, 5, or more drinks and drove away. One thing is having wishes, intentions, and wanting the ideal and the other is what is feasible. This is why I believe the comrades who have been looking into how to handle this kind of problem make a distinction between the one who has a very direct responsibility toward others because he drives 100, 60, 70 passengers or drives a huge vehicle that is as big as a war tank down the streets, or a taxi driver in one of those small Ladas carrying four people. That person has a responsibility because that individual... [rephrases] that is his profession, he is paid to transport people. In the other case the person does these things of his own free will.

Anyone would think that any responsible individual would not speed when he is with his wife and children. However, I see that happening every day. They even speed carrying the wife and children on a motorcycle and in an automobile. And they speed, not only the ones that have the (?vergovina) even if it cost them 800 or 850 pesos. There are some guys who have bought old cars for 15,000 and drive recklessly as if to kill themselves regardless of what it costs them. Those are things that actually take place, there are irresponsible guys. [end recording]

The meeting approved the Supreme People's Tribunal report. Valuable remarks were made while the report was being discussed.

[Begin recording] [Flavio Bravo] There is still a tendency of seeing things and not doing them. As Comrade Fidel was telling us recently, we all have to wake up and feel responsible for all the tasks of the revolution and not be passive, just looking at things, and letting them go. That has nothing to do with the revolution.

[Castro] Nobody can make general resolutions in the country. Nobody can do it without persuading workers first. Because we could turn into technocrats who decide what is good and order it without talking to anyone, without persuading a single worker. That is not good. We have to educate our workers since we have educated them wrong by compromising for years, by being paternalistic, and granting many concessions, by making things easier to the extent that people do not have to work.

Idled workers, what else were idled workers if not a form of corruption, of excessive bureaucracies, uncompliance with the work day, underutilization of the work day, equipment, of everything? These are examples in addition to coffee breaks that started at a certain time but

nobody knew when they ended. In sum, we created those things in one way or another. We are directly or indirectly responsible for all those things. We also have to look into those things.

Pure socialism is not born. Socialism is born smeared with the world it comes from. I do not want to compare mothers with capitalism because they are two very different things. But socialism comes to the world being very small, weak, ignorant, it doesn't even know how to crawl. Now, when socialism begins to crawl, to walk, it stands up, and walks, and begins to talk and think. This is when socialism begins to rectify many of the things that happened. We came from a capitalist society. Many of those things were dreams of workers within the exploitive society. We didn't realize that we were tying our own feet and hands, that we were blocking the country's development and progress. We came from a society of the unemployed. I also try to understand the factors that brought many of these things. We came from a society of unemployed. There were terrible social pressures to look for a job everywhere. Thus, all these phenomena have their historical reasons. But now that we have become aware of them, we know what is blocking development, and we want to do things—we are doing many good things but, comrades, let me tell you that we are not doing it through any resolution. Nobody has gone to the Supreme Tribunal because of the minibrigades. I am not aware of any appeal. Has there been one, Amaro [Jose Raul Amaro, president of the Supreme People's Tribunal]?

There are 20,000 minibrigade members in the capital. They say they used to work 40 hours, [corrects himself] 44 hours a week. They say they worked those hours. [chuckles] They could have been 35, 38, 28, 25, nobody knows. Now, they are working at least 60 hours. They are earning the salary they were earning at the factory for 25 hours of work and they are creating marvels. That was not the result of a resolution, that was a result of political work conducted by the party, labor unions . . . [changes thought] I believe many things have to be done first through persuasion, using facts, de facto, and ask for a resignation.

The other day I came across a [word indistinct] in which an individual had been sanctioned. They said he was good, that he was a good administrator, but he had committed a terrible offense. It was not a thing . . . [rephrases] well, it was an irresponsible action, negligence, it was actually a lack of sense. We had to punish this lack of sense. I said, why doesn't he work in construction for 2 months? I said to myself, maybe we are violating the Constitution or the law. I asked that he be told that he had to go there as part of a moral punishment. I said: Tell him to go as a volunteer for 2 months; if not, he will not remain as an administrator. That's it. I said: Let's respect the law but have the man morally accept a sanction and if he is incapable of accepting a sanction then I believe we are going to have to establish some of those kinds of punishments. Because we are not able to replace each one of them every day. I believe that if we try to reeducate criminals through the tribunals, we also have to reeducate our cadres.

Pretty soon we are going to mark the 20th anniversary of Che's death. I remember that Che was the one who invented the (guanacabibe). It was a moral sanction. It was not a penal sanction. I do not think that anyone . . . [rephrases] legally, we could not do that because they could go to the Supreme Tribunal. But morally, if you are a revolutionary, if you are militant, and if you are an administrator, member of the party, a labor union, everyone . . . [changes thought] Let's give a moral sanction to this man. The sanction consists of going to do a job. He can accept it if he wants and he can refuse it if he wants. Now, if he is a manager and does not accept it, he has to be replaced. He is then asked: What other kind of job can you do, my child? Start doing this other thing. We are going to have to find other kinds of sanctions that are moral, that are not related to any penal punishment. They cannot even be called administrative because there would not be any administrative justification to do so. But if I analyze everything we are doing everywhere and consider the workers over there who are building the Pinar del Rio Highway, or the ones who are there in Vinales, there are many men working 12 and 14 hours.

But the most notable example of that massive movement is the minibrigade movement because of what they do, what they collect, and all is a result fundamentally of political work. Not even a law has been needed. A law has not been needed to create minibrigades. Minibrigades have the miracle [rewords] have done the miracle of creating things with the same people who used to do nothing or did little by increasing somewhat the use of the labor day in factories or by organizing production better.

I am sure, I am completely convinced that 100,000 out of the 800,000 workers in the capital can be pulled out and nothing would happen. The 700,000 others can take care of production as well or even better. Of course, we cannot pull out 100,000 workers—it is not that it is not politically feasible. It has been shown that there is willingness among the masses. There is always a complete, total, absolute response among the masses. The masses are anxious to be asked to do things. It is not that they go there against their will. They are anxious to be asked to do things. [end recording]

ANPP Approves Balance of 1986 Budget

FL022009 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] The recently discussed, and approved, balance of the 1986 budget by the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], has given us something to think about. It is well known that the sustained drop in the price of oil on the international market and the effects of the devaluation of the dollar, have resulted in

certain limitations to the availability of freely convertible currency and that this has had its effects on our productive capacity. These problems resulted in the need to adjust our economic growth, and they are the reason why we did not achieve the levels of efficiency established for 1986.

Nevertheless, and despite the problems, we have witnessed our government's determination to continue providing the basic services our people need and to continue building houses, schools, day care centers, and hospitals.

Unfortunately, there are also important factors that affect the efficiency of the productive enterprises. This is mainly because there is poor control in the use of our material resources and their productivity. For example, we are still experiencing problems in the charge and delivery of our merchandise; the dining room and cafeteria systems reported losses above the estimated losses; we have problems involving quality; undue buildup of inventories; violations in the use of electricity; violations involving prices and financial discipline; and shortage of funds. But, there is also a positive side to this problem. Our planned activities reported positive results. A stronger discipline was used when calculating our resources, and our spending was curbed.

Likewise, the provinces and ministries improved their systems to verify the credit standing and financial situation of the state enterprises. This system has improved the economic administration of these enterprises. To sum it all up, and like our commander in chief said: our society can only become a more just society in the measure that it becomes more efficient.

Energy Official on Excessive Use of Fuel

FL031646 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] A high consumption of energy was reported in August. If this continues, we run the risk of exceeding the amount of fuel reserved for the remainder of this year. This would require using part of the fuel reserved for export, which would affect the balance of payments.

This was reported at the National Energy Commission meeting in Bauta. During the meeting, it was noted that the efficient use of energy for this year is less than what was planned and achieved in 1986.

Joel Domenech, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the National Energy Commission, stressed the need for all energy areas in work centers to examine the causes of this deteriorating situation and adopt the appropriate measures.

Important Changes in Rural Economy Noted

FL052231 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] A very important change has taken place in our country's rural economy. During the past 5-year period, the rural economy reported a 4.5 percent growth and its productivity also increased by 5 percent. The imperialist blockade, and the mistakes made, did not hinder the progress of the agricultural and forestry workers who have just celebrated their day amid much joy.

To achieve these results, the agricultural and forestry workers had to build factories for the production of fertilizers. These factories are currently producing 16 times the amount of fertilizers they were producing in 1958. The amount of land currently under irrigation, is three times more than prior to the revolution. Almost all the soil preparation and sowing work is done by machines. Our citrus production is eight times what it used to be, and by 1989 we will be producing a million tons of citrus products. This product has become a very important export item. Our rice production is also five times what it used to be and cattle breeding has improved because of the progress made in the fields of genetics, artificial insemination, and the transplant of embryos. These new techniques have resulted in a breed of cattle that adapts to our environment and this has caused our dairy production to double in the past 10 years. We have also made progress in other areas of cattle raising.

Likewise, the living conditions of the rural people have improved quite visibly. During the past 25 years, more than 300,000 homes and 575 schools and medical clinics have been built. Many of the homes, schools, and medical clinics have been built in remote areas. Tens of thousands of homes now have electricity and this allows people to have their own television set and refrigerator, comforts that were impossible to enjoy in the past. The average life span of the rural people has increased from 53 to 74 years, and the infant death rate has dropped from 60 to under 14 deaths for every 1,000 live births.

There is still much to be done or improved; however, the people in the rural areas now feel that they are part of their country and that they have much to say about their future. This is why they celebrated their day with much happiness and optimism.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Seaga Sees Labor Partnership With U.S.

FL051330 Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 03 Oct 87

[Text] Washington, Oct 3, CANA—The nations of the Caribbean see themselves as partners and not competitors with American labour, says Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga. We are partners in production, Seaga told reporters here this week. We help you to produce a cheaper product.

He added that it was "unfortunate" for Caribbean countries to be cast in the light of being in competition with U.S. labour.

The prime minister said he supports legislation that would extend the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) into the next century. The plan seeks to spur economic growth through increased trade and investment in export industries in the Caribbean but has performed disappointingly so far.

Seaga was joined by other Caribbean prime ministers as well as congressmen eager to expand trade between the United States and the Caribbean basin nations.

Besides extending the CBI to the year 2007, the bill would expand the scope of duty-free treatment for Caribbean products, eliminate duties and quotas on CBI products assembled from 100 percent U.S.-made components, and restore CBI countries' sugar quotas to their 1983 levels.

Seaga said the intention of the CBI had been "to make the Caribbean into a production centre ..... in partnership with U.S. producers."

He said that it was necessary for Caribbean countries to earn foreign exchange through exports in order to import products from the United States. "Trade is a two-way street," he said.

Belize's prime minister, Manuel Esquivel, said his Central American nation had not been able to take full advantage of the CBI, but called it "important" for the development of the region.

Trinidad and Tobago prime minister A.N.R. Robinson also termed CBI important to his country, especially after it was classified as a "middle income" nation and thus ineligible for certain international development programs.

Representative Sam Gibbons said the CBI extension was necessary to "maintain momentum." He predicted that the bill would reach the house floor by "nearly next year," but warned, "we can't make progress until we solve the sugar problem."

I think it will give the Caribbean a great opportunity to work its way into the modern economy, added Gibbons, chairman of the House Ways and means Subcommittee on Trade.

Barbados

Sandiford UN Speech Stresses Cooperation

FL051535 Bridgetown CANA in English 2301 GMT 02 Oct 87

[Text] United Nations, Oct 2, CANA—The prime minister of Barbados, Erskine Sandiford, said on Friday that the international community owed its survival to the world's small states and underscored the importance of multilateral cooperation to them.

He told the United Nations General Assembly that Barbados' significant economic growth in almost 21 years as an independent nation was in part due to multilateral cooperation.

"We are mindful of the fact that our performance might have been far different were it not for the support and cooperation developed through the United Nations system," Sandiford said.

He added: Large and powerful states often succumb to the illusion that they can forego multilateral diplomacy, that they can dispense with international cooperation, that they can rely on balance of power, spheres of influence and alliances to protect and promote their national interests.

But small states could not court self-delusion. They must be active participants in the international community, steadfast practitioners of international cooperation, vigorous exponents of multilateral diplomacy and firm supporters of international organisations.

We contend that small states can and do make a valuable contribution to the international community. Indeed, the international community as we perceive it today owes its very survival to the small states of the world, said Sandiford, whose country has a population of about 250,000.

Answering the self-posed question of why a tiny island like Barbados, with few resources, should enjoy national sovereignty, he said: Barbados, a mini-state, sought to achieve national sovereignty because, for Barbadians, national sovereignty is the most natural condition of a people's existence. We told that it is not independence and national sovereignty that need justification. Rather it is the condition of dependence and subjugation—whether it be colonialism, imperialism, hegemonism or any of the several modern isms used to describe a system in which the conditions of existence of one people hinge on those of another.

Noting Barbados would next month celebrate the anniversary of its independence in 1966, the prime minister said: Our experience during those 21 years has confirmed that that what Barbadians believed in principle has proved, in practice, to be effective. With few resources and a capacity for hard work, we have been able to transform what was a poor, one-crop economy into a thriving centre of diversified economic activity that affords our people a vastly improved standard of living.

He said Barbadians had created a political system of social democracy in which the talents and enterprise of individuals were allowed free play, and in which people were assured health care, housing and working conditions as basic rights not subject to market-place negotiation.

Sandiford said he was distressed to note that many small states represented in the world body had frequently found themselves the target of ill-conceived and lightly considered criticism ever since their emergence from colonialism.

He said the Caribbean had drawn clear lessons from efforts at functional integration under the umbrella of the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

Sandiford said however that while Barbados supported north-south and south-south cooperation, the biggest impediment was the Third World debt crisis.

"The long term solution to the debt problem as I see it will require a new orientation to the concept of international trade, bearing in mind that small countries and especially small states are heavily dependent on orderly and fair system of international trade for their economic stability," he said.

Barbados, he said, saw a logical connection between disarmament and peace.

"We believe that if resources now devoted to destruction were deployed to meet the real needs of our people many of the causes for conflict and the quest for weaponry would not arise," the Barbados leader said.

He commended the efforts of the superpowers to reach an arms limitation agreement, but stressed that arms limitation could not replace disarmament.

Sandiford also advised small states to refrain from engaging in conflict whose origins are often alien to the interests of their people and of their national priorities.

Dominica

Allegations About Charles Prompt Inquiry

FL021750 Bridgetown CANA in English 2153 GMT 01 Oct 87

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Oct 1, CANA—The opposition Dominica Labour Party (DLP) is calling for an inquiry into published allegations that Prime Minister Eugenia Charles was paid US100,000 dollars by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Ms Charles, who is currently in Washington, has denied the allegations made in a controversial book on CIA activities by *Washington Post* journalist Bob Woodward.

Woodward wrote that the money was paid in connection with the 1983 U.S. invasion of Grenada. Charles had played a major part in securing the intervention by Washington.

She said on a Voice of America programme monitored here last night that she had told Woodward some months ago when he contacted her about the matter that it was untrue.

According to the VOA report, Charles suggested that the story should not be published.

The prime minister, the VOA said, was contemplating legal and other action.

DLP leader Michael Douglas said in a statement the DLP wanted a full-scale judicial inquiry into the charges.

Haiti

Government to 'Radically Restructure' Army

FL031155 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Haiti has announced plans to radically restructure the country's Army. The National Council of Government has said that the number of officers is to be increased and the Army's command unit is to be decentralized.

The move is designed to eliminate the Ton Ton Macoutes, the law enforcement group directly responsible to ousted dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier. The Ton Ton Macoutes served as Mr Duvalier's secret service and was extremely feared by Haitians. It was disbanded immediately after the fall of Mr Duvalier, but the Ton Ton Macoutes remain active in the island.

People Urged To Participate in Elections

FL022125 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] The National Committee of the Congress of Democratic Movements [Conacom] has issued a press release, which says:

We of Conacom feel that the Haitian people must mobilize for the elections. We also think that they should understand clearly exactly why they must participate in these elections. Here are the reasons for which we have decided to ask the people to mobilize and participate in elections:

First of all, the Haitian people must not let the Macoutes take power legally. The participation of the people in the elections constitutes a step forward in their struggle. It is in the interests of the struggle for the people themselves to seize control of power, and thus have political hope. Having the people's representatives in power is a good guarantee that the struggle will progress more rapidly.

Conacom's position on this matter is clear. One election is not going to change anything. Elections are a small step, a stage, a means of mobilizing so that the cause of the people may be furthered. Elections are one move in a long and difficult battle to uproot a system established in Haiti for over 100 years.

Elections constitute a means, an occasion, for the masses to incorporate all their demands into a program, together with all other sectors that agree that the system must be changed.

Thirdly, [number as received] insecurity is a tool used by the enemy to prevent people from mobilizing. We cannot wait for this government to provide security for us. People themselves must organize and take all measures necessary to ensure their security—the security of their areas, neighborhoods, and organizations. If this is not done, the Haitian people may consider that the enemy has only just begun to kill people.

While Conacom is going to mobilize so that the people can take power all the way from the CASECs [Administrative Council for the Communal Section] through the communal offices, the deputies, the senators, and on up to the president, it is obvious that only if people get organized are they going to be allowed to solve their problems.

Therefore, elections for the unity of the people's camp against the Macoutes—that is, all the forces that do not want a change in Haiti aimed at permitting the masses to have a better life! The 1987 elections are a phase in the big battle to root out the system of extreme poverty and injustice.

The note is signed, for Conacom's secretariat, by Jean-Claude Bajeux.

Jamaica

Private Sector Demands Action Against Crime

FL051400 Bridgetown CANA in English 0610 GMT 04 Oct 87

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 4, CANA—In a scathing condemnation of the past conduct of Jamaican politicians, major interest groups here Sunday demanded that parties dump political thugs and that the government provide the police and the judiciary with the tools to fight crime.

We demand that all political leaders must by word and deed immediately and categorically dissociate themselves from political thugs and lawless activity, and further, that the political parties give unreserved cooperation to the security forces in an effort to break the crime/politics link, said an open letter signed by the leaders of 16 mainly private sector-oriented organisations.

The groups behind the letter include the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (PSOJ), the Jamaica Hotel and Tourism Association (JHTA), the Jamaica Manufacturers Association (JMA), the Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA), the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce and the Master Builders Association.

The others include the Jamaica Bankers Association, the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS), the Shipping Association of Jamaica (SAJ), the Small Business Association of Jamaica (SMBA), the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Media Association of Jamaica, the Jamaica Dental Association, the Nurses Association of Jamaica (NAJ) and the Jamaican Family Planning Association (JFPA).

Their letter came against the backdrop of the increase in violent crime here in the past two months that has put the issue almost on the top of any agenda of public discussion.

The organisations said that successive Jamaican Governments have failed to maintain law and order, and their failure has been administrative and moral.

It is generally accepted that there has been for many years an unholy alliance between elements of the political parties and violent gangsters for the purpose of intimidating political opponents, the letter said.

This, it claimed, was demonstrated during the July 1986 municipal elections when the two major parties agreed to eschew violence.

The result was Jamaica's most peaceful election campaign in 20 years, the organisations said. This is convincing evidence that where the political leadership exercises the will, political and other violence can be reduced to the benefit of the society and the political parties themselves.

Much of the recent violence here has been linked by police sources to the drug trade and general crime, rather than politics.

But the groups contended that the god-fathering of thugs by politicians has created a monster which is out of control. They said: ...Now drug barons, gunrunners and vicious killers have suborned or terrorised entire communities and the peace and prospects of the nation are at risk.

Lawlessness and violence has taken a horrendous toll of lives: insecurity has driven many of our most productive citizens into migration and it is absolutely clear that any hope of national economic recovery and employment for the majority of ordinary people is threatened by the rising tide of criminality.

The bulk of Jamaica's criminal violence is confined to urban ghettoes where there tends to be sharp demarcation of political loyalties.

But some of the victims of the recent wave have been relatively prominent persons in uptown, commercial and residential areas, putting the society more on edge.

Jamaica was particularly shocked by the September 11 murder of Reggae star Peter Tosh and two other men by gunmen who went to the singer's home in the posh suburb of Barbican, demanding money. Four others were wounded in the incident.

The two major parties, the ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) and the opposition Peoples National Party (PNP), often accuse each other of contacts with gunmen, but deny any connection themselves.

PNP leader and former prime minister, Michael Manley, in an interview published a week ago, admitted to the possibility of gun thugs attaching themselves to party structures at the constituency level.

Manley, whose side has taken credit for initiating talks to lessen political tension, at his party conference a fortnight ago made an emotional call for an end to political tribalism and for unity in fighting crime.

That section of the speech is to be broadcast Sunday on radio, paid for by the PNP.

JLP Chairman Bruce Golding said his party and government welcomed Manley's call.

However, the national security minister, Errol Anderson, after Manley's speech, had accused the PNP, through the head of its former youth wing leader, of having connections with gangs.

The groups, in their letter, made no mention of these squabbles in formulating their demands.

They told the government to provide the police with the mobility, communication and leadership so they can be more effective in preventing and solving crime.

We also urge the police to increase the efforts to purge the corrupt elements from its own ranks, and win the trust and cooperation of the citizenry, the letter said.

Resources also had to be provided to improve the physical facilities and manpower of the justice system so as to restore its efficiency and effectiveness.

Said the letter: The law-abiding majority of Jamaicans cannot allow this nation to be taken over by gunmen, political thugs, robbers and drug barons.

Seaga Touts Economic 'Success Story'

FL051335 Bridgetown CANA in English 0600 GMT 04 Oct 87

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 4, CANA—Jamaica has passed its September economic performance test under its current agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the official JAMPRESS News Agency reported. JAMPRESS quoted Prime Minister Edward Seaga as saying that preliminary figures for the quarter ending September indicated that all targets were met with very comfortable margins to spare.

Jamaica in January reached a U.S.150 million dollar support agreement with the Fund, and has passed the previous quarterly tests. Jamaica has been in and out of IMF agreements for a decade, and this is the fourth since 1981 under the Seaga government. The others were derailed after the country failed performance tests.

The government is confident that it will successfully conclude this one.

Said Seaga: It is now widely perceived in international circles that the Jamaican economy has achieved recovery and is well on its way to becoming a success story of a middle income indebted country that has undergone all the necessary major adjustments and restructuring and is now showing the benefits of the drastic changes made.

Montserrat

Poll Irregularities Prompt Investigation

FL012040 Bridgetown CANA in English 2056 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Sept 30, CANA—Montserrat's attorney-general today applied to the court for a re-opening of ballot boxes from the August 25 general elections as part of an investigation into allegations of irregularities in the poll.

The investigation follows a high court judge ruling last Monday against the opening of the ballot boxes in support of a petition filed by the unsuccessful National Development Party candidate for Plymouth, Percival Arthurton.

The judge ruled that the procedure adopted by the petitioner was not in accordance with the law relating to election petitions.

Arthurton said he had no intention of taking the matter further, but Attorney-General Odel Adams said he was launching his own investigations and wanted the ballot boxes opened. "I have applied under Section 78 of the Constitution and Elections Ordinance to have the judge open the ballot boxes in pursuance of criminal investigations into allegations which have been made by nine persons."

Adams said the persons swore to affidavits which suggested false ballots got into the ballot boxes. The attorney-general said criminal prosecutions will be instituted if necessary.

The election was won by the Peoples Liberation Movement of Chief Minister John Osbourne for the third straight term, capturing four of the seven seats.

The opposition National Development Party got two seats and the Progressive Democratic Party secured one seat.

Arthurton, in his petition, claimed that the names on some ballot papers used in the Plymouth constituency, did not have the names of candidates in alphabetical order.

Belize

'Honorable End' to Guatemala Dispute Sought

FL021735 Bridgetown CANA in English 2322 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Oct 1, CANA—Belize today pledged to redouble its efforts to seek an "honourable end" to its longstanding territorial dispute with the neighbouring Guatemala.

Foreign Minister Dean Barrow told the current General Assembly of the United Nations in New York this was the aim of his government. The minister's speech was made available here.

After six years of uninterrupted enjoyment of independent nationhood, Belize has forged its own international personality and established itself firmly among the nations of the world, Barrow said.

There is no room in the contemplation of our continued existence for the encouragement of the pretension to all or part of our territory by another state, he said.

My government feels that there is now a favourable climate for some degree of normalization to take place in relations between Belize and Guatemala.

Barrow said that despite the failure of talks between the two countries in April to produce a breakthrough and Guatemala's insistence on the cession of Belizean land as the price for a settlement, his government was comforted by the continuing support which enlightened nations of the world community give to us.

He said Belize totally rejected the Guatemalan position regarding the cession of land.

Nevertheless, we have agreed to continue talking. Developments have taken place in Guatemala which incline us to feel that the April position was no more than a temporary hiccup in the negotiating process, and that the formula can still be found for peaceful and active coexistence between neighbours, he added.

Barrow said his government looked forward not only to a diplomatic accommodation with Guatemala, but also to the economic cooperation which would surely follow.

The foreign minister also said Belize had taken interest in the recent initiative by St Lucia and St Vincent towards unification of the eastern Caribbean states.

He said while full consultation with the people of these nations [words indistinct].

We welcomed moves towards a return to democracy in Suriname and said Belize applauded that country's military government for its decision to allow international observers to be present at the elections fixed for November.

We hope that the current difficulties can be overcome and the timetable set adhered to, so that political power can be handed back to the people (of Suriname) as scheduled.

El Salvador

Government-Rebel Talks Resume 5 October

PA051557 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1518 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—At 0900, the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas resumed the dialogue begun yesterday to seek solutions to end the 7-year civil war in this country.

After meeting for 7 hours yesterday afternoon, both high-level delegations "by mutual agreement" agreed to continue the peace talks called for in the "Esquipulas II" presidential agreement, Salvadoran Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas, the mediator, has reported.

The two sides, the prelate announced, agreed to "abstain from making any kind of statement to the press" during the negotiations. There is no indication when the negotiations will end.

"Both delegations want to expressly state their willingness to reach agreements that will contribute to securing the peace that is wanted so much by the Salvadoran people," Rivera y Damas explained.

The government and guerrilla delegations met here yesterday from 1330 to 2100 in the apostolic nunciature with the mediation of Archbishop Rivera y Damas, Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez, and Italian Bishop Francesco Benittis, the papal nuncio.

At the beginning of the meeting, Nuncio Benittis issued an appeal and subsequently both delegations lunched with the bishops. After the first working session, Rivera y Damas spoke and they then had dinner.

The guerrilla leaders spent the night at the home of Fernando Alvarez de Miranda, the Spanish ambassador.

Joint Communique Issued

PA060907 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 0613 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Joint communique issued at the end of peace talks between the Salvadoran Government and the FMLN-FDR; read by Salvadoran Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas at the apostolic nunciature in San Salvador—live]

[Text] Joint communique of the third dialogue meeting issued at the apostolic nunciature in San Salvador:

1. At 1300 local time on Sunday, 4 October 1987, the third dialogue meeting between the Salvadoran president's delegation and the FMLN-FDR delegation began to discuss—in the framework of Esquipulas II—the path for a peaceful resolution of the Salvadoran conflict. This is how we proceeded:

2. Dialogue moderator Msgr Arturo Rivera Damas, San Salvador archbishop, arrived at 1200 local time. The government delegation formed by President Jose Napoleon Duarte, General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, Dr Abraham Rodriguez, Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, Colonel Carlos Reynaldo Lopez Nuila, Federico Bluff, and Jose Luis Grande Presta arrived at 1330. All of them were welcomed by Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Francesco Benittis and moderator Msgr Rivera y Damas.

3. The FMLN-FDR delegation arrived in the nuncio's office at 1340 local time. This delegation was comprised of Dr Guillermo Manuel Ungo, Dr Ruben Zamora, Jorge Villacorta, and Dr Hector Oqueli for the FDR. Joaquin (?Avila), Leonel Gonzalez, Jorge Melendez, and Facundo Guardado arrived on behalf of the FMLN. All of them were welcomed by the apostolic nuncio and the San Salvador archbishop.

4. The meeting was opened at 0850 [time as heard]. Msgr Rivera Damas acted as moderator in the presence of Msgr Benittis and Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, who acted as assistant to the moderator. Msgr Benittis welcomed those attending the meeting, and the moderator formally opened the meeting with a religious invocation. He encouraged the delegation to seek progress in the peace process.

5. Development of the meeting: The dialogue occurred in a climate of seriousness, peace, and respect on the part of all the participants. There was a deep determination to find a way to achieve to peace. This feeling was expressed by all the delegates' endorsing the proposals included in the document agreed upon by the five Central American presidents in Guatemala on 6 and 7 August 1987. They agreed to fully accept the historic challenge to forge a destiny of peace for Central America; to struggle for peace and eradicate war; and to make dialogue prevail over violence, and reason over resentment. The two delegations, after several hours of dialogue—which they described as frank, open, and positive, and aimed at attaining peace in El Salvador as the fundamental contribution for peaceful coexistence in the region—agree to this:

A. To reiterate support for the peace efforts as expressed in the agreement signed by the Central American presidents on 7 August 1987 in Guatemala City. This effort is called a procedure to establish a firm and lasting peace in Central America. It is also called Esquipulas II. Within this framework, we can find solutions for the domestic conflict of our nation.

B. To create two commissions to seek and prepare accords in the following areas: first, with regard to the cease-fire process; and second, with regard to the other contents of the Esquipulas II document. The commissions will be formed by as many as four government representatives and four FMLN-FDR representatives. The two commissions will be headed by Msgr Rivera y Damas. Should we be unable to do this, and with consultation among the parties, he will be replaced in this office by his assistant.

C. The people designated to form one of the commissions can also be members of the other. The names of the representatives will be reported to the moderator no later than 5 days from this date.

D. The commissions will make efforts to deliver to the moderator their first report and accords before 4 November. In any case, the commissions will continue their activities during the period of 120 days established by the Esquipulas II accord.

E. The meetings of the commissions will be private. They can release press communiques with common agreement about the progress of their work.

6. Finally, the two commissions deeply thank Pope John II for receiving the apostolic nuncio and caring for us through his representative Msgr Benittis and moderator Rivera y Damas. We also thank the Salvadoran people who accompanied us in this long session. Also, the parties thank the governments and diplonmatic representatives of Spain, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, France, the FRG, Italy, and Sweden for their generous cooperation on the occasion of this third dialogue meeting.

All of the above is inspired in the desire for peace, to find the way for a less unjust and more humane society, an independent society within a pluralist and democratic concept.

7. Proof of the constitutional framework: The government delegation establishes its disposition to comply with all that has been agreed upon, and it will do so in absolute and total obedience to the Constitution.

The meeting ended at 2300 local time on 5 October 1987.

Handal on Talks Outcome

PA060944 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 0654 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Speech by FMLN Commander Shafick Handal at the apostolic nunciature in San Salvador—live]

[Text] I send to all our people the combative greeting of the FMLN General Command, [shouts, applause, chants] a warm combat greeting from each of our fighters, from each of our militants, and from each of our [words indistinct].

We are here as a result of the popular struggle. We are here in San Salvador because the capital was opened by your struggle throughout these years. [slogans, applause]

The people's struggle is just and legitimate in all of its forms. It is just and legitimate, having emerged from the popular struggle as a growing power, and it should have a voice and a part in deciding the path the fatherland should follow. It is also legitimate for that power to strengthen the demand to create a fair, independent, socially just commission to resolve the conflict, but [words indistinct] the dominant classes' and imperialists' interests.

We have been at this third round of dialogue for 20 hours. We spoke with absolute clarity and openness. We expressed the exact terms of a demand for a solution, in keeping with the Salvadoran people's interests and in keeping with the interests of the entire nation, whose sovereignty and independence must be respected. [applause, slogans]

The entire first part of the round was dedicated to presenting each side's positions on the conflict and on forming commissions. These statements and the debate that emerged established that our positions and the government's are very far apart and that only through a great effort, and especially through a great struggle, can we pave the way for a fair solution to the national problem through political means. We also clearly established our unyielding will, in keeping with the Salvadoran people's unyielding and combative will, [applause] of not surrendering the principles and fundamental objectives of this struggle, for which our people have shed so much blood. [slogans]

A concrete agreement has emerged whereby two commissions have been formed: one that will make every effort to prepare agreements to pave the way for a cease-fire; and another to discuss other issues contained in the Esquipulas II document, a document that—to a great extent—expresses the hope for liberty, self-determination, independence, and democracy.

Our position regarding the cease-fire is very far from the government's position in that regard. For us, the cease fire is linked to a solution that will resolve the leading and essential aspects of this conflict. [chants]

It is in these commissions that we will make the necessary effort to arrive at fair agreements. However, we do not want to entertain false hopes. We want to tell you that we should have confidence in our own struggle, the people's struggle. [applause] The more this popular struggle develops, the more the conditions will exist for fair agreements, but above all there will be increased conditions for a fair, patriotic solution to the entire problem troubling the Salvadoran people. That is our message. We must elevate the war struggle, consolidate the organization's ranks, [words indistinct] the willingness to achieve the Salvadoran people's goals. [applause, chants, slogans]

During all of these years, as you all know, the combative FMLN forces have developed an incredible struggle full of heroism and progress. [slogans, applause] This struggle over there in the mountains and the rural areas of the country, as well as in the outskirts of the cities, has been possible due to the FMLN's stoic ties with the popular masses. [applause] The result has been the formation of the war fronts and multiple expressions of popular strength. In our country, throughout all of these years, and as a result of this struggle, there is a situation of two powers, and it is on this basis that the people are demanding a solution.

Our message has been a message of struggle and confidence in the people's forces, a message of conviction regarding the things for which we struggle. [slogans]

Comrades, I must say farewell to you with a great deal of emotion.

New Agriculture Minister Sworn In

PA030007 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1446 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 30 Sep (DPA)—President Jose Napoleon Duarte swore in new Agriculture Minister Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich today. The new minister has been San Salvador's mayor since May 1984.

Morales Ehrlich replaces agronomist Carlos Aquilino Duarte Funes, who has been transferred to an advisory post within the government.

The new minister told DPA after he was sworn in that he would devote his efforts to strengthening the country's agrarian reform and to developing an agrarian policy that will provide opportunities to all sectors. He added, however, that there will be a special policy to enable peasants to overcome their underdevelopment. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

President Ortega Announces Cease-Fire Zones

PA011700 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0055 GMT 1 Oct 87

["Face the People" program with President Daniel Ortega and Manuel Espinoza, information and press director of the Ministry of the Presidency, from the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua—live, broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Ortega] . . . the professional comrades have been working all afternoon updating their knowledge of the Esquipulas II accords. We regard this as very important

because in this way Nicaraguan professionals and technicians can master and become familiar with the topic and its application. Also, they can make contributions to the revolutionary government regarding our duty to consult and ask the opinion of various population sectors on the implementation of the accords. This afternoon, all those who have arrived—not all of them are present—as delegates have had a chance to discuss, ask, and contribute their views to the comrades of the Foreign Ministry, the Army, the Interior Ministry, the National Assembly, and with the Ministry of Foreign Trade. Esquipulas II also includes economic subjects.

I will now mention some of the concerns presented by Comrade Freddy [moderator Freddy Cruz, president of the Heroes and Martyrs Confederation of CONAPRO, National Confederation of Professional Associations], which sum up the views they pondered all this afternoon. This does not curtail the opportunity of those comrades who have now begun to participate. Later they can ask the questions they deem pertinent. As for the deadline, (?there is no) deadline. Reagan has tried to [words indistinct] of a deadline. But there is no deadline. In a negotiating process for peace it is necessary to take one step at a time. The Central American governments' duty to take steps actually begins after 90 days. The steps that Nicaragua has taken before the 90-day deadline have been taken as a result of a decision by the Nicaraguan Government. The Esquipulas II accords did not bind us to take all those steps that our country has already taken. There is no deadline. After 90 days, we will be bound to take certain steps, provided simultaneity occurs. This is a principle on which all of the Central American presidents agreed. This principle of simultaneity is also set down in the document we signed. This is fundamental. After the 90 days we will have 30 days more for the international commission to meet and to assess the fulfillment of the accords.

Thirty days after that—in other words, 150 days after the signing of the documents—there will be a presidential summit to assess the fulfillment of the agreements and to agree on new efforts and ways to make progress in those areas that have posed problems. This was clearly established at the Guatemala meeting. President Reagan is interested in establishing a deadline, and he has tried to create the impression that there is a 90-day deadline. He has done so by interpreting the Esquipulas agreements in his own way. He is interested in having a 90-day deadline because he wants the U.S. Congress to approve the $260 million in support for the contras. That is only one aspect, because we are not clear on [words indistinct] positions. President Reagan is seeking ways to create a deadline and to make people understand that one exists. The Central American presidents, the Latin American governments, and the governments of the world in general know very well that such a deadline is nonexistent. It does not exist. It was established that 90 days after the signing of the agreements we would begin fulfilling them, provided that it is done simultaneously by all the nations involved. Regardless of the simultaneity and without being bound to it, we have already carried out a number of steps. That is very important.

There are other aspects, other aspects that our comrades have already answered and that Comrade Freddy has already explained. I will talk about the media, because it is a very sensitive issue. I will also talk about various measures taken by the revolution.

We must clearly understand that when we talk about political pluralism, a mixed economy, and nonalignment, we are talking about a serious and responsible proposal of the revolutionary process. If we restricted the circulation of the media or of some media at a certain time, if we imposed sanctions on them, it was because we were facing a war and because the behavior of that media and the war itself led us to apply sanctions against them.

However, there are no established principles in the foundation of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process to justify closing the private media and to maintain only state media sources. This principle does not exist. We are beginning with premises derived from our own reality and by interpreting this reality. Interpreting our own reality we believe—and when I say we I am referring to the FSLN, to the National Directorate, as a single voice—we believe that regardless of our desire, of the desire of the revolutionaries, of the desire of those who are understanding and supporting the revolutionary process in a specific and effective manner—there is a reality in our country. Apart from the war itself, our country has a reality, and it is that old beliefs, even Somozist thought, have not disappeared from our midst. The idea of defending other economic systems, defending other forms of leadership in political, social, and economic terms—that idea exists. The idea of even surrendering to imperialist policy also exists. The idea that a mixed economy is not advantageous, that what is advantageous is a private capital monopoly and a return to the ways of the past—that idea exists. These thoughts exist whether or not there are media sources to reflect them. We cannot put an end to these ideas by issuing a decree. These ideas are a reality. Thus, we have to combat these ideas, but we have to first allow the expression of these ideas.

However, we also have the right and the opportunity to express revolutionary thought. (?Think about it)—we have had the rich experience of confronting and openly arguing about various political and ideological positions. We have never premised our position on the existence of war. We have closed some of the media—not because of the war itself, but because we found that some of the media sources agreed with the aggressive policies against our fatherland. We did not close some of the media because we wanted to eliminate those whose actions were contrary to the revolutionary plans supported by the Nicaraguan Government and the FSLN. Therefore, it is important—especially for Nicaraguan technicians

and professionals—to know that this is a great opportunity, a new experience for the revolution. We will publicly argue, as we argued at the beginning and have continued arguing, despite the (?restrictive measures), because those who are opposed to the revolution have had the opportunity to express themselves in other ways.

We will continue this debate, but we will now offer more opportunities to those who have criticisms to make, whether they are constructive or negative criticisms against the revolution. We believe that it is important that criticisms be constructive, even if they emanate from people who have different political and ideological positions.

We will take into consideration the proposal made here by CONAPRO of supporting what would be a policy for the return to the country of some of those 9,000, perhaps not of all them, but at least part of those 9,000 technicians who have left our country. I would not say that all of them left the country because of the revolution, because we all know that there is a continuous drain and theft of technicians and intelligentsia from Latin American countries by the developing countries . . . [corrects himself] by developed countries, which are taking our professionals out of our countries. After we make investments here in the training of a technician or professional, they end up working in other countries that have made no investment [words indistinct]. The technicians and professionals abandon their own countries, which need the service of that professional or technician in whom the country has made an investment. This is a problem experienced by all Latin American and Caribbean countries. It is a problem affecting all developing countries, not only Nicaragua. Of course, in our case, we must add the war problem, which causes tension and nervousness among some technicians who are somewhat confused and have thus emigrated.

The question about the coup d'etat and whether it could affect us: Of course a coup d'etat would affect the peace process. A military coup d'etat would certainly affect the peace process in Central America. We hope that there will be no coups d'etat. However, we know that it is a potential risk in our Central American countries, where there have been continous coups d'etat, particularly now that the Esquipulas II agreements exist, and now when we see that some sectors disagree with Esquipulas II.

There are rightist sectors in Central America that do not agree with Esquipulas II. The U.S. Government does not agree with Esquipulas II. Thus, there is a risk that a coup d'etat might take place, and, of course, that would affect the peace process. But, I would say, even in the event that a coup did take place, we would be committed to continue to defend compliance with the Esquipulas II agreeements.

There is a coincidence in the interest that you, as technicians and professionals, expressed in discussing the time period mandated in Esquipulas. We will reveal tonight if the time period continues to hold true for a measure that we had already announced. It has to do with the cease-fire. We had already discussed, first, that it is a sovereign decision of each Central American government to apply the cease-fire in whatever way it feels convenient. The important thing is that the cease-fire will—at a given time—lead to a total cease-fire. At this point we are not committed to implement a cease-fire; however, because we are interested in peace, we are thus interested in stopping the bloodshed—so much blood is flowing in Nicaragua, so much blood is being shed in Central America. Because our interest lies in defending compliance with the Esquiplas II agreements, we have made the sovereign decision to implement a gradual cease-fire, to request a cease-fire.

This initiative did not really stem from the Esquipulas II agreements; this is no trick; this is no maneuver by our side. This idea came out of the autonomy processs, the peace process carried out on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. That is where the idea of a cease-fire was born. How? Through direct contact with the armed groups that had decreed a cease-fire. A process of reconciliation then slowly took place. New conditions arose that weakened the counterrevolutionary armed activity in that area; great enthusiasm prevails there, and a large majority is in favor of autonomy. Therefore, it is not something that has just started now; it is part of a process that has already provided results. The amnesty, too, is not something that we have just invented as a result of the Esquipulas II agreements. We had decreed amnesty in January 1985, and since then we have maintained it—that is, an amnesty for those who belong to counterrevolutionary armed groups and who desire to lay down arms and to return to work here in Nicaragua with full guarantees.

Similarly, in this new situation peace commissions have been created in various parts of the country, in the war zones. The National Reconciliation Commission is in operation. The Nicaraguan Government paid much more attention to this commission than was required in the Esquipulas II agreements. However, the Nicaraguan Government decided to do this, and this also did not originate in Esquipulas. The fact is that the National Reconciliation Commission, headed by Cardinal Obando, is to be in charge of this effort and is to guarantee the implementation of amnesty. The commission will offer guarantees to anyone wishing to take advantage of the amnesty law. The regional and zonal commissions also play a role. Anyone who wants to have amnesty is entitled to these guarantees.

As for the cease-fire, we also have guarantors for that. The cease-fire will be a gradual, not a total, cease-fire. We have decided that as of 7 October—we are announcing this today and we hope all our people are listening to this, above all those in the war zones—and up until 7 November—let me explain that the 90-day deadline expires not on 7 November, but on 5 November, but we are setting a term of 7 October to 7 November so that in

these cease-fire areas that can be seen on this map—those people who wish to do so may take advantage of the amnesty, so that contact and dialogue may be established with the various commissions to determine the ways in which cease-fire will be implemented.

Consequently, an initial phase has begun, effective 7 October, in which the Armed Forces, the EPS, are ordered to carry out a cease-fire in Nueva Segovia, in a 600-square km area. In Jinotega, the area will cover approximaely 400 square km. We are not going to give you the demarcation details. In Jinotega, the area will be 450 square km, and in Nueva Guinea, Zelaya Department, the area will cover 400 square km.

In other words, we are speaking of 600 square km in Nueva Segovia, 450 in Jinotega, and 400 in Zelaya. The total is 1,450 square km. In these areas, our Army will retreat to peripheral areas outside the demarcated zone.

The people who are located there in cooperatives, farms, and productive areas and who are organized in self-defense forces will remain there. We are not going to pull them out. We will not obstruct their work. If these people are attacked by the mercenary forces after 7 October, then our forces will respond immediately. Our forces would begin operations with other forces to protect these people. Our forces would then return to the peripheral areas, to the areas under a cease-fire.

We will not permit attacks on the civilian population and the cooperatives. However, we will try to create conditions in these areas so that those who want to seek the protection of the amnesty law can do so. We will try to create conditions so that the National Reconciliation Commission and the regional and zonal commissions can go there to explain what Esquipulas II is, and so that the necessary talks between the commissions and the area's armed groups can be held. They can then reach agreements; we have given a deadline of 7 November, which could be extended. If conditions exist in the Nueva Segovia area to extend the deadline—specifically, if those involved in the counterrevolution are responding positively—then we would extend it. The same goes for Jinotega and Nueva Guinea.

Therefore, these three areas, which add up to more than 1,000 square km—600 square km, plus 400, plus 450 equal 1,450 square km—well, this means that we are taking a very important step in beginning the implementation of a cease-fire. However, the ideal thing would be a total cease-fire. In other words, we would be going from the gradual to the total, from the little to the many, and from the parts to the whole. That is our idea with regard to this proposal.

We harbor every hope that many of the people who are involved in counterrevolutionary activities in this area—Nueva Segovia, Jinotega, and Nueva Guinea—will accept the cease-fire and seek the protection provided under the amnesty.

As we said, direct contact will be established with those who want to discuss a way to enforce the cease-fire, and we will take subsequent steps to integrate these people into our society.

To give you more details about the meaning of these measures, and specifically to inform those in the affected areas, Comrade Espinoza will read the communique.

[Espinoza] According to what was stated in the communique issued by the Presidency's Information and Press Directorate on 22 September 1987 and in compliance with the Esquipulas II agreements and as part of the actions necessary for achieving an effective cease-fire within the constitutional framework, the president of Nicaragua informs the Nicaraguan people and the international community that he has decided:

1. To postpone defensive military actions in the territories mentioned in this communique effective 0000 hours on 7 October until 2400 hours on 7 November. This deadline may be extended in accordance with the specific results of the negotiations by the peace commissions with the counterrevolutionary forces in these territories.

2. The territories designated for the unilateral cease-fire are:

A. In Nueva Segovia Department, north of the Quilali-Wiwili road, in a 600-square km area covering the geographical sector that includes the limits defined by the following points: Ventilla, coordinates 03, 20; La Morena, 09, 20; Valle Morado, 17, 26; Arenales, 24, 17; Los Angeles, 21, 09; Valle San Gregorio, 17, 03; Cerro El Brujo, 05, 00; La Reyna, 00, 04; and El Barro, 96, 11. All this area is within the limits of the EPS' First Military Region.

B. In Zelaya Department (Atlantic), south of Nueva Guinea, in a 400-square km area covering the geographical sector that includes the limits defined by the following points: Cerro Cobin, coordinates 87, 80; Cano El Danto, 88, 73; Rio Almacen, 85, 72; Maritza Quezada, 70, 86; PROFOBSA [expansion unknown], 86, 06; Dos Bocas, 03, 11; Piedra Fina, 08, 04; Colonia German Pomares, 04, 97; Colonia Jose Benito Escobar, 98, 95; Nuevo Leon, 96, 89; La Ceiba, 93, 88; and Yolaina, 90, 84. All this area is within the limits of the EPS' Fifth Military Region.

C. In Jinotega Department, north of the San Jose Bocay-Plan de Granma road, in a 450-square km area covering the geographical sector that includes the limits defined by the following points: El Pajarito, coordinates 05, 59; El Puerto, 07, 61; La Tronca, 16, 68; Yuluwas, 20, 68; La Tigra, 26, 67; El Jilguero, 26, 51; Loma El Faro, 14, 50; Las Bocas, 11, 50; Valle El Consuelo, 08, 50; Valle San Juan, 06, 53; and Tapascun, 02, 56. All this area is within the limits of the EPS' Sixth Military Region. The coordinates given correspond to the 1972 edition of the map scaled at 1 to 50,000.

3. In addition to the aforementioned territories, the government expresses its willingness to designate new cease-fire territories in areas of the country where counterrevolutionary groups operate if these groups request it through the peace commissions or any other means.

4. The permanent troops who operate in the cease-fire territories we just mentioned will be transferred to the following places outside these territories:

a. For the Nueva Segovia cease-fire: in La Reforma, coordinates 02, 99; in Quilali, 01, 05; in La Vigia, 89, 16; in Murra, 21, 06; and in San Albino, 13, 97.

b. For the Nueva Guinea cease-fire: in the Nueva Guinea neighborhood, 93, 67; in Los Angeles, 88, 71; in Verdun, 88, 79; in the German Pomares neighborhood, 04, 97; in the Carlos Fonseca neighborhood, 80, 86; and in La Union, 73, 78.

c. For the Jinotega cease-fire area: in San Jose de Bocay, 97, 57; in Yuluwasito, 21, 61; Los Nogales, 19, 46; Las Torres, 06, 72; La Parranda, 05, 51; and Plan de Granma, 10, 49.

The coordinates given correspond to the 1972 edition of the map scaled at 1 to 50,000.

5. The Sandinist People's Militia units, comprised of residents from the areas mentioned, will, for the protection of their families, cooperatives, settlements, farms, and production and service units, remain where they live or work in accordance with their type of self-defense militia unit.

6. The EPS reserves the right to repel, by any means within its possession, any attack or aggression by the conterrrevolutionary forces:

a. Against the population organized in the Sandinist People's Militia, general residents, cooperatives, farms, or any other objective within the cease-fire areas.

b. Against any attack coming from the cease-fire zones.

c. Any action aimed at blocking free movement on roads and highways within the cease-fire zones.

7. The president authorizes the defense minister to adopt all of the practical measures that may be necessary for the implementation of these orders in the cease-fire territories.

8. The government asks the National Reconciliation Commission, the regional and departmental commissions, and their respective peace commissions to carry out on-the-spot verification of the strict fulfillment of these unilateral steps promoted by the government for the achievement of an effective cease-fire.

Finally, you are invited—in conjunction with the proper authorities—to implement the practical measures and procedures that will facilitate communications and a meeting with those counterrevolutionary forces in the cease-fire zones who express an interest in doing so.

Managua, 30 September 1987

No one surrenders here.

[Ortega] It is wise to clarify and state explicitly that fighting is presently going on in the areas where we have ordered a cease-fire to start on 7 October; at that time our troops will leave the areas that have now been clearly defined.

The area residents should also feel supported by our Army, our forces, our troops, even if these forces are out of the area. The necessary surveillance and corresponding intelligence reports will be kept up so that if the mercenaries violate the cease-fire and attack a cooperative, a farm, or the civilian population anywhere within the defined areas, our troops will be in a position to enter the area and rescue them or given them our support. We are not willing to leave our civilian population unprotected and vulnerable to being wiped out by the mercenaries. Our troops will be located in the peripheral areas so that they are able to act quickly and repel an enemy offensive that would violate the cease-fire, crushing and harming the civilian population.

After announcing the Nicaraguan Government communique, we come here, comrades, to answer any question you may have concerning the cease-fire or any of the subjects discussed this afternoon, such as political, military, economic, and security subjects, as well as the Central American parliament as it relates to the Esquipulas II agreements. Comrade Freddy Cruz will take your questions now.

[Station announcer] You have heard President Daniel Ortega at the closing of the national professionals conference on Esquipulas II and for national unity and peace, which is being held tonight at the Olof Palme Convention Center. The president is accompanied by Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado; the executive committee of the Heroes and Martyrs of CONAPRO; Rafael Solis, first secretary of the National Assembly; Rene Vivas, second vice interior minister; Jose Leon Talavera, vice foreign affairs minister; and members of the EPS general staff. At this meeting, called "Face the People," the professionals are going to present their questions about the Esquipulas II agreements and the cease-fire areas announced by President Daniel Ortega tonight. We thank all the Nicaraguan radio stations for their participation in this fraternal radio broadcast, headed by LA VOZ DE NICARAGUA.

[Unidentified speaker] In point No 5, which refers to ceasing aid to irregular forces or to rebel movements, I ask Commander Daniel Ortega the following: One of the

revolutionary principles is internationalism. Up to what point will the Esquipulas agreements accept or limit the exercise of this fundamental principle of our revolution? Thank you.

[Cruz] Another question, Comrade, if possible, about the cease-fire. Comrade?

[Station announcer] The moderator gives the floor to one of the professionals present.

[Vargas] President, comrades: My name is Narciso Antonio Vargas. I am a doctor in the fourth region. We believe that this proposal is very important for the advancement of peace negotiations in Central America. It calls on professionals to form commissions within each association to foster public debate on Esquipulas II within Central America and, if possible, outside the region afterwards. The Heroes and Martyrs of CONAPRO and the revolutionary government should come up with an agreement which includes a responsible compliance date so each professional association can foster debates as soon as possible—in October, for example—within Central America. This is based on a very important fact. We have a very great enemy that we all know. It is manipulated propaganda.

We Central Americans understand each other; we Nicaraguans somehow understand each other, despite small internal disagreements; we understand each other very well. The problem is that you go to Honduras and watch a television program there that is being manipulated, which shows that we are happy and content with Esquipulas II because in it we see a great hope for peace. That paid propaganda is manipulating the entire Central American people, and we are not helping to prevent this manipulation. Therefore, we could gain much from a public debate by professionals, from a top-level debate, or from a first-rate debate broadcast on the Salvadoran television network, for example. It would be positive if they asked us about actions we have taken to fulfill the Esquipulas II agreements, about what the professionals' view on that is, etc. We could even do the same on Guatemalan television, and in that way we would neutralize the propaganda that sometimes misinforms the Central American population, divides us, and delays the peace negotiations that are healthy for the Central American people. Thank you.

[Cruz] Comrade.

[Station announcer] President Ortega is participating in the national professionals conference tonight.

[Speaker] I have two questions for the comrades of the Presidency who are present today. Here is the first one: What measures have been taken to protect cooperatives and the civilian population when the EPS troops withdraw? Although we have the militias, we know that these people are armed, and I believe once our forces withdraw there would be merely weak protection for the civilian population. Now that our forces are in those areas, cooperatives are attacked and massive massacres take place. So what can we expect when our forces withdraw? What guarantees will the civilian population and our cooperatives have when the forces withdraw? In other words, what protection will they have, because I do not think the counterrevolution will give a truce to our civilian population, or something like that.

The second question is this: We know that all professionals must make a step forward in the struggle that we will carry out now. It seems to me that it will be a merciless fight, a great political and ideological battle, because I think the cease-fire not only concerns weapons, but also the politica!-ideological situation that is presently occurring. This is only the beginning of the battle, and we already have political statements from the various parties. It is time not only for a cease-fire, but it is time for political and propaganda statements that harm our people's ideology to cease as well. Those statements also distort things, because they manipulate the population, especially the uneducated. For example, it is said that amnesty will be granted to all [Somozist] guards. That causes great concern among our people; things must be clearly explained to them. That is one of the problems. In addition, there are rumors that amnesty will include all those who give up their weapons. That is not welcomed by the population, especially by those who were personally harmed by the war or whose children have died in combat after the triumph of the revolution. They feel that the concept of total amnesty is deceptive. It is true that those people are giving up weapons, that they are counterrevolutionaries, that some of them were deceived by their fear of communism, but many of them were aware of the horrible crimes they committed. The population therefore wonders how the amnesty issue will be resolved with regard to those counterrevolutionaries. It is one thing to commit a crime during combat and another very different thing to commit a crime while not engaging in combat. That is all. Thank you very much. [1-hour station break]

[Ortega, in progress] . . . deeper, which are the ones we have been unable to tie together. We are viewing them in a fragmented way. In other words, we are separately seeing amnesty, [words indistinct] national dialogue, and the return of the communications media of [words indistinct] which will be heard. In other words, we are seeing this in a fragmented way. If we look at this in a fragmented way, of course, it will only be disadvantageous for the country. However, if we see it as a whole, in an overall way, it will not be disadvantageous for Nicaragua or any Central American country.

The first question that we should ask is: Why doesn't the U.S. Government support the Esquipulas agreements? The U.S. Government maintains a clear position against the Esquipulas agreements. If it does not support these agreements, that is simply because the United States Government realizes that through these agreements the Central American governments, which historically have

submitted to the U.S. policy, are for the first time in their history contradicting U.S. policy on Nicaragua. These governments are recognizing the legitimacy of the Nicaraguan revolution. This is the overall element that is important in all of this because the U.S. Government has been struggling all these years to deny the legitimacy of the Nicaraguan revolution, so that it will not be recognized as legitimate, so that the elections we held here will not be recognized as legitimate, so that all the efforts for the true, authentic, and overall democracy in Nicaragua will not be recognized. The U.S. Government has struggled so that the governments of Latin America, Europe, and especially Central America will not recognize our efforts. It has been a great struggle. For years the United States was able to keep some Central American governments in a position that would favor its plans.

The fact that there was not a single meeting of Central American presidents during all those years since Reagan began his war policy against Nicaragua in 1981 is evidence of the effectiveness of the U.S. policy in pressuring the Central American governments so that we would not even meet to talk. The U.S. Government's interest has been, and continues to be, to isolate Nicaragua from the international community. And in order to isolate Nicaragua from the international community, it first had to isolate Nicaragua from its neighboring countries. If this were not so, how could the U.S. President claim that Nicaragua is a threat to its neighbors when Nicaragua has just signed an agreement with those neighbors to work for peace and in which all the Central American governments acknowledge each other's legitimacy? This is the overall element that is above all the other partial aspects that you have been pointing out here. That overall element is unacceptable to the U.S. Administration. This is why Reagan opposes the Esquipulas agreements. This is why Reagan is against the implementation of the Esquipulas agreements.

It is important that everyone clearly understands this. We must clearly understand the nature of our revolutionary process. We know what its nature is. It is a people's process which has real power. The revolutionary change left the real power in the hands of the people. The fact that here we do not have a state-controlled economy does not mean that the economy is in the hands of and at the service of an exploiting class. That situation does not exist here. The economic power here is in the hands of the people. This is not just words. It is not demagoguery. It is a real element.

The revolution regulates the national economy. To have a revolutionary national economy we do not necessarily have to have a state-controlled or a socialized economy. We could speak of the nature of revolutionary power. We view the participation of the private sector, which in this country is very broad, as a factor that does not oppose the popular and proletarian nature of this revolutionary process.

What is the private sector? Thousands of small- and medium-sized businessmen. That is the private sector in Nicaragua. It is the peasants' cooperatives, the small- and medium-sized industrialists, the artesans. That is the private sector, and our proposal for revolutionary changes in Nicaragua has never considered putting the Nicaraguan economy under state control. We have considered nationalizing the properties of Somoza, his allies, and his accomplices, intensifying the agrarian reform, and giving participation in the revolution to all the economic sectors—small, medium, and large—willing to accept the revolution's rules of the game.

Remember that we have here the San Antonio sugar mill that belongs to [name indistinct] and that we have the Chamorro group operating the soap factory in Granada. These are two of the large economic groups functioning in our country. We have studied our coutry's economic problems looking for ways to resolve them, and we have realized that it would be crazy if we put all these enterprises under state control. No one here can imagine nationalizing [words indistinct]. We cannot. Our true situation is something else. It is not the situation of other revolutions that took place at other times under other historic circumstances, with other frameworks. Our situation is different. We could have nationalized everything. Analyzing the situation we told ourselves: If we nationalize the big owners—considering that big owners like those of the San Antonio mill and the [words indistinct] make large profits—we would gain those profits. Could we then reduce the budget deficit? We worked it out on paper, and we concluded that the revenue the big enterprises make would not be sufficient to justify the nationalization of those enterprises. The amounts really do not have [words indistinct]. Why? Because there is a revolutionary presence in all aspects. There is redistribution of wealth through taxes. In the days of Somoza these enterprises either paid no taxes or very low taxes. Now they pay a lot of taxes. This is one way to lead the big businessmen who kept operating in Nicaragua to redistribute wealth.

We have spoken about a national unity policy. This policy demands the participation of all sectors in the country. In this regard the economy plays a very important role.

We also talked about the private sector, which is a very important sector. However, the private sector, we said, has thousands of peasants. Actually, we can count the number of private enterprises on our fingers. The large estates have disappeared from our country because agrarian reform has redistributed the land among the peasants. Thus, an economic reorganization is taking place in our country. At the same time the state is promoting programs and economic actions to change the bases of Nicaragua's economy. (?We) cannot say at this point that we have completely eliminated the situation that we inherited. Rather, we are in a process of change, with huge problems because of the war. The war is causing many economic restrictions.

Therefore, comrades, it is important that we do not look at the Esquipulas agreements as several separate issues, or as the simple initiative of those interested in bringing peace to Central America—we are not denying the role President Arias has played. However, the Nicaraguan people are mainly responsible for Esquipulas because the conflict is between U.S. policy and the Nicaraguan revolution. There is a conflict because U.S. policy seeks to eliminate the Nicaraguan revolution, and the Nicaraguan revolution is resisting U.S. policy. Thus, when the conflict began in 1981, Reagan—as we would commonly say—convinced some Central American presidents that by forming groups of mercenaries, providing weapons to them, and sending them into our territory, it was possible to end the Nicaraguan revolution in a matter of months. We are not going to say that the Nicaraguan revolution was to the liking of the Central American governments back then. It was not to their liking. Right now we cannot say that it is to the Central American governments' liking. It is not to their liking.

President Arias, who is involved in a peace effort and all that, went to the United States and clearly stated that he would like to see the Sandinists defeated through votes, not through bullets. Well, there is a difference between Arias' and Reagan's positions.

However, he has differing political and ideological positions from those of Nicaragua.

Similar positions could be found in the other Central American governments and in many Latin American governments. Deep down, if Reagan were able to eliminate the Sandinist revolution like he wants to, in a matter of months, they would be applauding Reagan right now and everyone would be happy. However, Reagan gradually got these governments involved and convinced them and destabilized the region. Instead of seeking an understanding with Nicaragua, Reagan destabilized Central America.

This is what Reagan did with his policy. Then what? What about the Sandinists? Are they defeated? Are the mercenaries advancing? Are the mercenaries liberating any territory? Where are the mercenaries? Is the number of mercenaries increasing? This has been the same thing year after year, even with U.S. support and the support of the U.S. President, who has been committed to this for 7 years. He has been involved in this aggression against a small country like Nicaragua every day for 7 years.

When the United States says that the Soviet Union is its main enemy, well, it seems that its greatest enemy in the world is Nicaragua because of the U.S. President's attitude.

There is Vice President Bush in Poland, a socialist country. Not only that, but he is there reaching agreements and approving economic cooperation and exchange for Poland, a socialist and totalitarian country, as they say.

They negotiate with the Soviet Union but they cannot find the will to negotiate with Nicaragua. They want to eliminate the Nicaraguan revolution. The U.S. Government has been set on this for 7 years while Nicaragua remains firm, resisting at the cost of Nicaraguan youths, peasants, and workers. Nicaragua has a small population. According to estimates, it has 3, 3.2, or 3.3 million inhabitants. So, the Nicaraguan people are resisting and defeating U.S. aggression. These people are getting tired, also, because their lives are becoming complicated.

Life is becoming complicated not only for the Central American governments but also for the area economies because the instability that has been spreading in Central America affects the amount of investment in Central America. Even if their economic systems are different, they still need investments. They need a certain political stability, but the Reagan policy is not providing this. Reagan insists on his policy against Nicaragua and thus continues instability in Central America.

There is a certain exhaustion and tiredness in the area. The Honduran population rejects the Honduran Government policy which has given the mercenaries an area in which they can move freely. The basic elements have always been Nicaragua's ability to resist the attacks along with the defeat the mercenaries have suffered. In some attacks here in Nicaragua it seemed that [words indistinct]. We would like it if a big group of mercenaries had entered our territory. We would come down on them hard. They know that. They know that what they have to do is to disperse themselves and [words indistinct] develop their terrorist actions in small groups, because their first efforts at forming large units resulted in tremendous setbacks for them.

As I have said, it is better for us to fight large formations. [passage indistinct] They know that and they would not risk engaging our forces in combat. So they scatter in the territory and commit terrorist actions. But our forces are decimating them. The armament continues to be good, but [words indistinct]. They attack cooperatives every day, yet we inflict casualties on them every day as well. They are being defeated. This is a reality.

Should they declare a 600-square km cease-fire area in Las Segovias and should they try to form a provisional government, they would not be able to, even if they wanted to. They would not be able to do it in Jinotega or Nueva Guinea. A cease-fire could be declared in those areas, but there would be no room for a provisional government. If they did install a provisional government, then we would attack them in force. That would be the idea. Rest assured the provisional government they want to install there will last about as long as it takes to announce it. That is how long it would last. [applause]

As I said, the important things here are the overall factors of the Guatemala accords. These are amnesty, cease-fire, and national dialogue. None of these factors oppose our revolutionary (?position) and scheme. We

talk about a revolutionary plam, joint economy, nonalignment, and political pluralism. We talk about a revolutionary plan because that is what fits our reality. There is no room for a different type or model of government. That model means our enemies can express themselves through some communications media. This is true. The enemy can express himself through political parties as well.

I would like to ask you this question. Should we eliminate the news media which oppose the revolution or those which are called independent, and should we ban the existence of all political opposition parties? Do you think the people who back those positions of the political parties will disappear from among us? Do you think their thoughts would change? Those people will be there with their thoughts and communicate through other means, particularly underground.

In addition, our country is in the center of the American Continent. Also, there are many countries from which messages and radio broadcasts reach our people, from radio stations the United States has installed at several sites. The same newscast can be broadcast from a radio station in the area and from one abroad. Why did we suspend the communications media? This was our response to the U.S. congressional approval of the $100 million after we understood that the position of [words indistinct] was to back the approval of that $100 million. This was our reaction to the approval of the $100 million.

When we expelled Msgr Vega it was the same. It was a reaction by us because of Msgr Vega's attitude when he said that he supported the $100 million allocation, after it had been approved. As long as the $100 million had not been approved, well, he could have said what he wanted. But, after the $100 million was approved, we reacted. We reacted. [repeats himself] And this reaction was not a gut reaction; it was a calculated reaction. Why? Because Reagan has held the belief that the only way to soften the Sandinists is through military pressure. The $100 million allocation meant that the U.S. Congress was approving military pressure. This was political approval of the military action against Nicaragua. We were answering Reagan. That is, his military pressure led us to attack and liquidate here, at home, his proselytizers. That is to say, he was not scaring us; on the contrary, an action by them brought a response from us. And that was what happened.

However, the Esquipulas agreements were reached. And the Esquipulas agreement, as I was explaining, does not contradict our revolutionary process because we support the search for a more egalitarian society. For example, the statement written there—which the comrade read in the newspaper—about the Esquipulas document is correct. We agree on the search for an egalitarian society, in seeking more justice. But, let us see; how is all of this to be implemented in each Central American country? But the truth is, that is not the main problem. The U.S.' main concern—and with its power it exerts influence over Latin America and Europe—the U.S.' main concern is to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution and within this peace process try to demonstrate that Nicaragua has no credibility whatsoever. That is what the United States wants. It wants to make it appear to international public opinion that Nicaragua has no credibility. And the United States has systematically underestimated all the steps we have taken, has claimed that they are only for show, and has been making the dialogue with the contras as a condition. And we know that having a dialogue with the contras does not resolve the problem.

As I explained to some comrades, mothers of fallen comrades, in San Rafael, if a dialogue with the contras would bring peace to Nicaragua we would have already had this dialogue a long time ago. However, the dialogue with the contras will not bring peace to Nicaragua. The dialogue must be held with the U.S. Government, which leads the contras. We would have to see who is more responsible for the crimes against the Nicaraguan people. Is it the U.S. Government or the mercenaries who are tools of the U.S. Government? The main culprit is the U.S. Government. Because if the U.S. Government did not have the policy of terrorism and aggression against Nicaragua, the same Somozist guards who are in Honduras would have perhaps come back here, and they would be working in the fields or working as laborers, and they would not be murdering Nicaraguans, or dying themselves, because many Somozist guards have died in combat, nor would they be in jail, as many of them are. Also, many peasants who have been involved in counterrevolutionary activities would not have gotten themselves involved in such activities.

The person most responsible is Reagan, and if we are willing to hold a dialogue with the most responsible person, with the biggest criminal—because we want peace—it would be unreasonable and illogical for us to refuse to speak with Calero or with Robelo or with Bermudez, if peace were attainable through a dialogue with them. Peace, the way we understand it; that is, peace without sacrificing the revolution. But what happens? We know that it is not possible because these people are only Reagan's employees; they are directed by Reagan. It is part of Reagan's schemes for us to sit down with these gentlemen and talk. They would propose unacceptable conditions, no agreement would be reached, and then Reagan would say, look, we have made an effort, and the contras have spoken with the Sandinists and they have reached no agreement, therefore the freedom fighters, the contras, the National Resistance, as he calls them, will have to continue to be supported. So we cannot fall into the trap of holding a dialogue with those people. And that is why we are not willing to hold a dialogue with those people. But we are really interested in having peace. We are really interested in peace because the most important thing is... [changes thought] we have a great responsibility as political leaders of this country, and our main responsibility is to preserve the sovereignty and self-determination of this

country. That is our main responsibility. But we also have a great responsibility, and that is to preserve the lives of Nicaraguans. This war has been imposed on us. War exacts a great cost in Nicaraguan lives.

I mentioned earlier that we have a small population. We are not Vietnam; we are not Vietnam. [repeats himself] Vietnam has an incomparably larger population; Vietnam's population is approximately 50 million, and it was approximately 40 million during the war. In other words, we are not Vietnam; besides, Vietnam's neighbors were other revolutionary countries, but we are alone here. We are a small country, resisting the war, with a small population. We would really like to have a population of 10 to 20 million Nicaraguans, because we would not have 200,000 men willing to fight; instead, we would have 1 million men willing to fight. U.S. imperialism would face a more complicated situation if it had to fight against a larger population.

We already face a critical situation because recruiting has become difficult. We are running out of young people of draft age, and as long as the war continues we will have to go back to the population in other age groups. We do not have much to choose from here, and we are talking about something terrible, painful—the war. The people are waging the war; the people are waging the war. [repeats himself] The war is being waged by the Nicaraguan peasants, workers, and youths. They are waging a patriotic war against aggression. We have a duty to fulfill; we must safeguard the Nicaraguan people's life. We have that responsibility.

Likewise, we must attain peace, if possible, and eliminate the mercenary forces. The mercenary forces should accept the cease-fire and the amnesty; if they do, then we can afford the sacrifice of seeing them calmly walking around even though they have perpetrated many crimes, because they later sought an amnesty. It would be worse if those men continued perpetrating crimes and killing more people, because we would then have to mobilize more soldiers to fight those criminals. We would prefer to see a task force commander, one of those criminals—because the task force commanders are infamous criminals who have razed cooperatives, committed rape, and perpetrated horrendous crimes—show up in one of the zones we have outlined in Las Segovias, Nueva Guinea, or Jinotega. Do you think that it would be favorable and beneficial for the life and peace being demanded by the Nicaraguan people if one of those criminals showed up with 500 to 600 men and said: Well, here we are; we accept the cease-fire and we accept the amnesty?

If we achieve that goal, then it is worth the sacrifice of offering guarantees to those criminals and granting an amnesty for those criminals, even if they have perpetrated thousands of crimes. We can afford to make that sacrifice because we would thus prevent that criminal and his 500 to 600 men from murdering more peasants. We cannot stop them from killing more peasants, no matter how much our troops exert themselves. Likewise, our youths continue to die because, after all, our troops are comprised of the sons of workers, peasants, and professionals. Our young men, 17- and 18-year-old youths, are drafted when they should be in school or working in an urban or rural production enterprise.

We must understand what the amnesty implies; we must understand its political importance. We must stop the war and we must prevent so much bloodshed among our people. We have granted pardons since the victory of our revolution. We pardoned Nicolasa Sevilla shortly after the victory because she was 80 year old. She has been a renowed Somozist who had killed people, she had been a criminal during Somozist times, yet we pardoned that woman. We also pardoned several guards who had perpetrated minor crimes. We have continued to pardon Somozist guards throughout the years. We have counterrevolutionaries and former guards who maintain a really dangerous attitude in prison because they are full of poison against the revolution and the Nicaraguan people.

We cannot release those people. We cannot release them because of the attitude they have had in the past and still have.

Those people regard freedom only as a chance to join the counterrevolutionaries, to figure out ways to commit crimes against the Nicaraguan people. Those guards are in prison, but they are not the only ones there. We could say that right now there are more contras—people we call contras, that is, people who joined counterrevolutionary activities since the triumph of the revolution, people with minds poisoned against the revolution—than former Somozist guards.

There are former Somozist guards who have been in prison since the triumph of the revolution. Most of them, or at least many of them, do not have poisoned minds. If we compare the number of former Somozists with poisoned minds with the number of contras who have that problem, we will find that there are more contras with poisoned minds. We cannot let that kind of person out.

If a contra becomes a prisoner in an area we have declared a cease-fire zone, that contra goes to prison, and we will not grant him amnesty. If we declare a cease-fire in a given area and a person continues fighting, he goes to jail, because he has been given opportunities to stop fighting and yet he persists in that activity. He will go to jail.

Amnesty must be viewed in general, political terms, in terms of its potential impact. From an ethical and moral perspective, it would be fair not to release any of these people. It would be fair not to release any of them. Is it fair for us to commit ourselves to once more begin fighting those mercenaries for years, to kill them in combat, and to capture them only to fight them again until we kill the last one in combat, or is it fair to leave them in prison? There is no absolute and perfect justice.

Real life does not function that way. Real life tells us that we have the obligation to safeguard the Nicaraguan people who endure actual genocide.

Sometimes we underestimate this situation. This is not a territorial issue. Our population is small. El Salvador has 5 million people in (25,000) square km. We have a population of 3.2 million, and Nicaraguans are dying every day—this in addition to the people who die as a result of accidents. There are Nicaraguans dying every day, and the ones dying are young people. This is the worst part. That means that the sector of our population that will be a definitive factor in our country's future development is dying every day. We are suffering an irreversible loss. The young students are mobilized. There are schools, high schools, where almost the only ones left are girls, the majority are girls, because the boys have all been inducted into military service. In the last years of high school the majority are women, and it is the same in universities.

Thus, we are obligated to seek a way to stop this war. Of course this war is not of our own making; it is a war that results from U.S. aggressive imperialist policy. But it is possible [words indistinct] that they will take advantage of the cease-fire, that they will accept the amnesty. Can you imagine what it would mean if 500 or 1,000 contras come back? How many lives are being saved then! It is preferable to save the lives of dozens, hundreds of Nicaraguans—peasants who live in the zone and youths who are most likely to go and fight there to defend their country, because persecution of those criminals means that justice will be done, and this supports a just and fundamental position of our country. This is a visceral point of view. From the point of view of those who demand justice, their idea would be to exterminate all those people, but in practical terms it is impossible to exterminate them. Who knows how many we would have to [words indistinct].

In Cuba, with a population of 10 million, they fought against mercenaries that did not even have a rear guard the way the revolutionaries have here. Anyone who went there knew that it was do or die. To battle the mercenary groups there in Escambray, the Cubans could mobilize 40,000, 100,000 men all at once. [Words indistinct] 40,000, 100,000 here and there to surround a whole zone, the mercenary groups were surrounded by troops. This means, for example, that 5 square km were surrounded by troops comprised of 100,000, 50,000 men deployed there, separated from each other by a one-meter distance. They then begun to advance over the terrain to seek out the mercenaries within that perimeter. Imagine all that effort to eliminate small groups.

Just imagine the human effort we would have to make to [words indistinct]. Furthermore, when they find our blows too harsh to endure they flee to Honduras or Costa Rica. We cannot do what the Cubans did: They would besiege [their enemies] because they had the human resources, the personnel to carry out such operations, because they had a huge number of people. We cannot do that here.

In Nicaragua, when we speak about amnesty, we are referring to [words indistinct], and when we speak of a partial and not a total amnesty we are referring to amnesty in political terms. Those poisoned individuals who are in jail cannot be released, and this is not because they are former guards, but because of their attitude. Yes, they might have been criminals, but the problem is really their bad attitude. [passage indistinct] We are obligated to receive those contras who accept amnesty, and this must be explained to their relatives.

On Saturday we met with the comrades of AMNLAE [Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association], and one of the comrades, the true image of a Nicaraguan woman, expressed herself clearly. She was not a member of the AMNLAE [words indistinct] but the woman has four children mobilized, and I do not know how many killed in the war, and other children who have not been mobilized; in other words, some of her children have been killed and others mobilized. They have been active since the insurrection began. She has another child studying in Bulgaria, another works at a state institution, and what was her reasoning? She said: I want amnesty at any cost, because what matters is that the war ends; I do not want my grandchildren to continue fighting the way my children chose to fight.

No one in Nicaragua wants their grandchildren to continue fighting, to see a war, to see bloodshed last forever. We want peace, we really want peace.

It is valid, then, to be flexible—in political terms—with these people. In terms of justice, of sentiment, we will never be able to forgive them, but in political terms we can forgive them because of the potential impact of their acceptance of amnesty; we are interested in their acceptance of amnesty. We wanted them to join the cease-fire proposal. They are presently being defeated. If they were not being defeated right now, it would not have occurred to us to make that proposal, because we knew that they would never accept it. We made the proposal because we know that the conditions exist right now for their acceptance of it.

The zones declared cease-fire areas as of 7 October are jungle areas where combat is under way. The mercenaries are attacking there and they are suffering casualties every day. Their supplies do not always arrive, and they suffer casualties every day. They do not have enough supplies, they do not have any liberated territory, and they have not taken any town. I can decide to go anywhere in the country, and I have said this to foreigners visiting here. I have told them: The contras do not control any territory in Nicaragua. Tell me where you want to go and I will go with you. We can go to the hottest spot at this moment. Why? Because as soon as

our advance party arrives, the contras disappear. They do not control any specific territory. Our advance party can arrive in any area at any time. There are some risks, but the contras do not control any territory. That is the truth. Comrades, amnesty must be understood in political terms. It is important to do so. There are people who feel solidarity with the Nicaraguan people's revolutionary struggle. We feel that the people's struggle arouses solidarity and compels others to express solidarity.

We have always had solidarity as a nation, and we have also received solidarity. Now, with the Esquipulas II agreement, it is true that we have committed ourselves, we have affirmed, as a government, our decision neither to support irregular forces nor revolutionary movements—irregular forces, meaning the contras, and revolutionary movements, prorevolutionary movements. Insurrectional movements was the term used. What is the agreement? That neither Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, nor any Central American country will lend its territory or direct or indirect support, either through news media or whatever, to any irregular forces ... [changes thought] that is, the network that the United States has in Central America. They have established camps, radio stations, and the like in Central America to deploy irregular forces against Nicaragua.

Nicaragua has committed itself to not lend any kind of support, logistical or any other, to rebel forces. There are rebel forces in El Salvador, in Guatemala. This commitment by Nicaragua requires simultaneity from all parties involved; that is, all parties involved in the agreement must comply with it. This does not contradict our internationalist and revolutionary spirit, because, in the first place, the Guatemalan and Salvadoran revolutionaries themselves are the first to be convinced that they are a natural force, not an artificial one. They are not dependent on Nicaragua, Cuba, or the USSR. They depend on their own peoples.

I can add something to this. In the sixties, when we discussed the Central American revolutionary struggle, we based our theory on the experiences of other countries, not on our own circumstances. We rather naively said—based on the situation in Central America at that time, and because of the history of the Central American struggle and other factors, but, above all, based on the revolutionary struggle that we admitted should occur in Nicaragua—that the way the revolution had triumphed in Cuba, through a small movement that went into the mountains and which afterwards grew in size and slowly descended until it reached the cities, should also happen in these Central American countries. In other words, we believed that we could apply the theory of revolutions in a completely mechanical way. We believed that the revolutions in Latin America were going to take place in that way; and, in the case of Central America, we said, well, here the revolution must first triumph in Guatemala—that is where the revolution has to win. Why? Because all revolutionaries [words indistinct] there. Moreover, they have lots of mountains; they are the ones with the most mountains in Central America; they have many peasants, many Indians; these are good bases for the development of a good armed movement in the mountains, which will then descend to liberate the cities. Afterwards, we believed, the next revolution to triumph will be in Nicaragua, Nicaragua [repeats himself]. Afterwards, it will be in Honduras. Where El Salvador and Costa Rica are concerned, they will probably follow through sympathy, we said. That means, when we say a revolution takes place out of sympathy, we mean in terms analagous to explosions: One says that when explosives go off—when two detonators are joined, for example, and then one explodes—others will explode in turn out of sympathy [as heard]. Thus, it was said, if a revolution occurred in Guatemala, for example, then in Nicaragua, and afterwards in Honduras, then in some way or another the revolution will occur in the other two Central American countries. When could a revolution occur in El Salvador when the poor guys there do not have mountains, do not have anything? How could the Salvadorans do this? we asked. A very peculiar situation exists in Costa Rica; the situation in Costa Rica is something else again; this is another world; it is difficult there because ... [changes thought] The actual situation has been different. The actual situation has been different. [repeats himself]

We believe that the most developed revolutionary struggle in Central America is in El Salvador. In which Salvadoran mountains? In 21,000 square km? In which Salvadoran mountains? [repeats himself] The Salvadoran people, the 5 million inhabitants: those are the mountains. That is where the revolutionary movements moves—through those people. Without the people, there would be no revolutionary struggle in El Salvador. No matter how much ... [changes thought] Suppose Nicaragua sends weapons, or Cuba sends weapons, or the USSR sends weapons. All right, thousands of weapons could be sent to El Salvador. If the conditions were not ripe there, there would simply be no revolution. The revolutionary struggle in El Salvador was already further developed than in Nicaragua, before we triumphed here. I have said this on other occasions, and the revolutionaries understand that the first bulwark that must be defended here in Latin America at present is Nicaragua. This is because positions have already been won here, and, therefore, this position must be defended first.

One must not bite off more than one can chew, as the saying goes, and since this position is already won, then one must seek ways to defend that position. This is the first thing to do, because if the United States succeeds in destroying the Nicaraguan revolution, then, even though the conditions exist in El Salvador for the struggle, no doubt the morale of the Salvadoran people would be hurt, because the example of the revolution is... [changes thought] In other words, the biggest support, the biggest solidarity we are giving the Salvadoran people is our example. We are telling them, look, we are only 3 million and see how we are resisting. Think just how much better you can do with your 5 million. Just imagine what other

countries with much larger populations must be thinking in Latin America. And that is what the United States is terrified of: the Nicaraguan people's example. Because, they ask themselves, if such a small country without any major resources can resist the United States, why not do so?

It is not by coincidence that in Latin America we already are seeing in governments that are not revolutionary—in bourgeois democratic governments—nationalist, patriotic, and independent positions, increasingly firmer and stronger positions of confrontation with U.S. policies. Such things were just not seen a few years ago. In the sixties, the United States would give a signal and all the Latin American countries would go in head first to do whatever it was that the United States ordered. The United States gave the signal and everybody broke relations with Cuba; the United States gave the signal and everybody took part, with the United States, in the invasion of the Dominican Republic. In fact, in 1965, during the invasion of the Dominican Republic, there were Somozist troops there, there were Costa Rican troops there, there were Brazilian troops there, there were symbolic troops there from all of the Latin American countries—all of them serving as accomplices of the imperialist policies. They all broke relations with Cuba.

However, the situation has now changed, and Nicaragua has contributed to this change in Latin America. If the Nicaraguan revolution is struck, if the Nicaraguan revolution is destroyed, that great movement being felt in Latin American would subside, it would be affected, it would be shaken, it would be weakened. Thus, we cannot fail to see the role being played by the Nicaraguan revolution. What more support can we give the revolutionaries of the world than the blood of our people, the blood of our soldiers, the blood of our youth, of our workers, of our peasants? That contribution is greater than sending a rifle to the Salvadoran counterrevolutionaries—they take away rifles from Salvadoran soldiers in combat. Our contribution is greater than sending a cannon to the Salvadoran revolutionaries, who get cannons each time they take over a garrison or a position of the Salvadoran Army in combat.

We cannot underestimate the role Nicaragua plays in the liberation struggle of developing countries. We represent a moral force for the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. We represent a moral force for the peoples of Africa, for the people of South Africa struggling there against racism, against apartheid. We set an example; we are a moral force. Then, it is important that it be understood that in the Esquipulas agreements we are not sacrificing our revolutionary and internationalist principles.

[Words indistinct] the other comrades that raised several points, especially the one concerning the environment, which is linked to the war. It is quite true that war affects the environment, war affects the environment in many ways, beginning with the human species. War has an effect on nature itself, and there is just cause for concern. But excuse me if I do not address several points that I have written down and that will be taken very much into consideration. I am addressing especially these points that I believe are important to make very clear.

Under the present circumstances, when we are taking several steps—*La Prensa* is coming out 1 October, Radio Catolica will reappear at any moment, the political parties are mobilizing themselves [words indistinct]. Well, one must prepare for an ideological struggle, a little bit more work here in the rear guard—that is all—because the struggle is not confined to the battlefronts. Then, we are just going to have a little bit more work back here.

I think that it is a challenge for us because it is easier to fight the ideological struggle against an enemy who cannot express himself. However, it is better for the revolutionary process, for our own training, to fight the ideological struggle against an enemy whom we are giving the opportunity to express himself. Well, we are going to wage that ideological battle against that enemy.

Regarding simultaneity, these are all political elements. Everyone is watching what Nicaragua will do. No one is aware of what Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala are doing. Everyone is watching what Nicaragua and the United States will do. This is what everyone is watching.

Every step that Nicaragua takes, well, that has a great repercussion and it worries the United States, so it reacts. Other Central American countries have taken small steps, but there are no repercussions. Well, if the dialogue with the Salvadoran revolutionaries is held, well, that will have a great repercussion, there is no doubt about that. A dialogue is pending in El Salvador. We do not know if it will be held or not.

However, the truth is, regarding Esquipulas, that the confrontation is very clear. The United States is trying to show that Nicaragua has no credibility. It is trying to present the (?established) date as a deadline. If nothing was accomplished after that, then Esquipulas failed, let us approve the $270 million, and the war against Nicaragua will continue or the invasion of Nicaragua or whatever the U.S. Government wants to come up with.

The United States is working to see how it can isolate Nicaragua. This is the truth.

This is what I wanted to tell you about the points that I feel are more sensitive and which you asked about regarding the implementation of the Esquipulas agreement. I do not know if there are any other sensitive points that I forgot to discuss. [passage indistinct]

I wanted to clarify something. Someone mentioned here the matter about the agreement with Costa Rica for the river area. This has to do with the agreement to cut lumber. This was approved. It was not an irresponsible attitude assumed by the administrator of any enterprise.

That was a matter that was politically approved by us. Several questions were raised then. These questions and concerns were voiced and we stopped the project. It was a project with Costa Rica. We felt it was positive, not only economically but politically, because it results in an increase in the economic activity on the border. However, in the face of the criticism that arose we became concerned. We listened to this criticism and we stopped this project.

Opens 'National Dialogue'

PA051722 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1539 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra at the opening of the national dialogue with political parties at the Cesar Augusto Silva Conventions Center in Managua—live]

[Text] Good morning, representatives of the political parties, members of the National Reconciliation Commission, members of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, representatives of the Contadora and Support Group countries and of the Central American countries, and representatives of labor unions and political and social groups of different political and ideological persuasions gathered here this morning:

In compliance with the Esquipulas II agreements, we have summoned you to begin the national dialogue. We are not going to repeat here well-known figures that clearly indicate the suffering of our people, both in the loss of lives and in property damage. The policy that the U.S. Government has been promoting against Nicaragua has seriously hampered efforts to establish a pluralistic regime in our country and hampered the very functioning of a mixed economy because of the effects that this war has had and continues to have and because of the attitude that the U.S. Government has continued to maintain.

Esquipulas II has opened new opportunities for the Central American peoples and their governments to take steps to achieve peace. Without the Esquipulas II agreements it would be highly unlikely that we would be gathered here; in other words, if only the policy of force, interventionism, and terrorism that the U.S. Government maintains against our fatherland existed, and there were no other option like that of Esquipulas II, we would not be gathered here. *La Prensa* would not have been reopened. Radio Catolica would not have been reopened. The opposition political parties would not be staging demonstrations as they are doing in the country's cities. The National Reconciliation Commission would not exist. Father Bismarck Carballo would not have returned. None of this would have happened, because it is well known that the Nicaraguan Government and people will not take a step backward in the face of positions of force. We have been obliged to respond to the Reagan administration's policy of force with a domestic policy of force to defend our revolutionary process.

The important thing to remember now that we are gathered here is that the legitimately established Nicaraguan Government and the political parties and other opposition political groups... [changes thought] It is important to realize clearly that the Nicaraguan people and government can reach understandings by persuasion [por las buenas], but not by force [por las malas], and that if this opportunity is being provided it is thanks to Esquipulas II and the disposition of the Central American leaders, first of all to recognize the legitimacy of the established Central American governments, to recognize the institutionality existing and prevailing in Central America, and, based on this premise, to work seriously to comply with the agreements that we signed there. It was not the U.S. Government's policy of force that opened *La Prensa*, that reopened Radio Catolica, that permitted the return of Father Bismarck Carballo, the formation of the National Reconciliation Commission, the beginning of this national dialogue, and the declaration of the cease-fire by the Nicaraguan Government in certain territories beginning on 7 October. No.

The U.S. policy of pressure and force prevented those possibilities. Therefore, these steps and actions by the Nicaraguan Government fall within the framework of good faith, which is an essential element that guides the Central American leaders in working for the fulfillment of the Esquipulas II agreements.

The Esquipulas document clearly states in the part on national reconciliation and the dialogue: It is necessary to urgently carry out national reconciliation actions in nations whose societies are deeply divided, and thus fully guarantee the people's participation in authentic political processes of a democratic character—based on justice, freedom, and democracy. To this end, it is necessary to create the necessary legal mechanisms that permit dialogue with opposition groups. Therefore, the corresponding government will begin a dialogue with all the unarmed political opposition groups in the country and with those who have sought an amnesty.

We have gathered here this morning the people who represent 12 opposition political groups. The Nicaraguan Government is taking one more step in complying with the Esquipulas II agreements. As president of the Republic, I appoint Comrade Carlos Nunez Tellez, who is president of the National Assembly, to be my representative and representative of the Nicaraguan Government before the opposition political parties in this dialogue between the Nicaraguan Government and the opposition political parties or groups. He will be the one to preside over this dialogue between the government and the opposition political parties. This is not a dialogue between the FSLN and the opposition political

parties. This is not how it is established in the Esquipulas agreements. It is a dialogue between the Nicaraguan Government and the opposition political parties.

Therefore, Comrade Carlos Nunez, as representative of the Nicaraguan Government, will have at his disposal in this dialogue all the members of the Nicaraguan Government cabinet, all the ministers who are here present at this important event. They will be at the disposal of Comrade Carlos Nunez whenever he so requires, in order to enrich and strengthen the revolutionary government's participation in this national dialogue.

It is good that all the participants in the dialogue will have the opportunity to express their various views on controversial topics, topics that even go beyond what the dialogue established. As leaders, we are willing to listen. We are willing to bear in mind everything that we believe can enrich and strengthen the democratic process in Nicaragua and that contributes to achieving peace.

It is also necessary that for the success of this dialogue, the representatives of the opposition political parties take the Esquipulas II agreements as the basic and fundamental document. The dialogue must be aimed at strengthening the fulfillment of the agreements. The dialogue must take place within the framework of the agreements. In the interpretation of the agreements, we believe that the contribution, ideas, and reflections that might emerge in this dialogue will be very valuable, and we will certainly bear them in mind. We will listen to all that transcends, all that goes beyond the Esquipulas II agreements; we will reply to all this as a government. However, for the success of the dialogue, it would be very important that we remain within the framework of the Esquipulas II agreements because, as I was saying, this dialogue is possible because of Esquipulas II. It is a mandate of Esquipulas II.

The fact that the Nicaraguan Government is meeting here with opposition political parties that represent different beliefs, ideologies, and philosophies proves the goodwill that prevails among all the people who have gathered here. The fact that you have heeded the call for a meeting represents support for the Esquipulas II agreement. It is not support for the Nicaraguan Government; it is support for the Nicaraguan people and their demands for peace; it is support for the peace efforts that we must all exert, setting aside sectarian positions, personal interests, and selfish attitudes. We must seek a consensus or agreement that allows us to attain progress and strengthen democracy and peace in our homeland. We must not forget that a war is being waged despite the Central American governments' efforts, the Nicaraguan political forces' efforts, and the Nicaraguan Government's efforts. The war represents the death of Nicaraguan peasants, workers, and youths who defend the revolution and those who are used as instruments to attack the revolutionary process. In the end they are all Nicaraguans, victims of a policy that is advocated by U.S. imperialism.

The national dialogue must first seek a national patriotic unity, which is the basic element and strength that should unite all Nicaraguans. Regardless of our political and ideological differences and our opposing—and sometimes antagonistic—positions, the homeland's interests should prevail over the interests of the foreign power that attacks a nation and disrespects the possibility that Nicaraguans may find a solution to our internal problems. We hope that a patriotic spirit prevails in this national dialogue. There are many problems and complex topics, so a consensus will not be easily achieved in a short time.

The deadline established by the Central American presidents to begin the simultaneous implementation of the Esquipulas II agreements expires on 5 November. In other words, it means that the peace process does not conclude on 5 November. Instead, the peace process begins on 5 November in the Central American region. This is why we decided in Esquipulas that 120 days later—meaning 30 days after 5 November—the International Verification Commission will meet to evaluate the agreement's implementation and prepare recommendations for another meeting. This meeting should be held by the Central American presidents 150 days after the document is signed. We will receive a report on the international verification commission's evaluation of the agreement's implementation. We will then adopt the necessary measures to attain progress on the issues where no progress has been achieved—in any of the Central American countries. Therefore, it is clear that the 5 November deadline does not represent an ultimatum for the Central American presidents.

Other governments—not Nicaragua—proposed a deadline of 180 days, instead of 90. In other words, the proposal was to begin simultaneously implementing the agreements 180 days after they were signed. However, this and another proposal of 60 days were discussed, and we finally agreed on a deadline of 90 days, with the understanding that this was not a final date. In other words, it did not mean that everything had to be completed in 90 days or that when the deadline expired all the points in the Esquipulas II document had to be implemented automatically. The agreement was that when the 90 days expired— regardless of the steps taken by each Central American government to comply with the Esquipulas II agreements—at that moment, 90 days later, if the agreements are to be implemented simultaneously, the Central American governments will be obliged to comply with all the agreements.

Regarding simultaneity, I also want to make it clear that it was not the Nicaraguan Government [that proposed it]. I was not the one who brought up this subject or who discussed or proposed this point. We never proposed or considered the concept of simultaneity. It was in the interest of other Central American governments to propose the idea of simultaneity. In other words, it was not a Nicaraguan proposal or a concession to Nicaragua. In any event, it was a proposal made by one or another of

the Central American governments, and a concession to those other Central American governments. We understand that the problems are complex. We understand that implementing these agreements is not easy for some Central American governments. We understand that some are requesting more time to implement the agreements. That is why they proposed a deadline of 180 days and the concept of simultaneous implementation. Regarding simultaneity, if we analyze the implementation of the agreements realistically, it is not likely that on 5 November the agreement will be simultaneoulsy implemented in the entire Central American area. This does not mean that the Central American governments are tied up with an ultimatum. They have the opportunity to continue their efforts to implement and enforce the agreements.

Therefore, it is important that in this national dialogue we appreciate the effort made by the Central American presidents when they signed this document on 7 August. It was truly a momentous and historic effort. It has a profound meaning in regard to the Central American presidents' determination to implement these agreements, to seriously and effectively work for peace. [20-second break in reception] ...Latin American peoples and governments, who have continuously favored a negotiated solution. They were always in favor of a negotiated solution, even in the worst times. Truly, Esquipulas II was possible first of all due to the capacity, resistance, and firmness of the Nicaraguan people, who have been defeating the U.S. interventionist policy. However, a fundamental factor has been the peace efforts conducted by the Contadora and Support Groups. When a political and negotiated solution in Central America was not considered feasible, the Contadora Group insisted on it and countered U.S. policy that has threatened and continues to threaten direct actions against our homeland.

Therefore, Esquipulas II has been possible thanks to the sacrifice, willingness, and determination of the Nicaraguan and Central American peoples, thanks to the Contadora and Support Groups' unselfishness, and thanks to the courageous stance adopted by the current Central American presidents who signed the agreements.

It is now up to us, each one of our nations, to work seriously so the dialogue can become a true instrument to achieve peace. [14 second break in reception] Opposition party leaders: The Nicaraguan Government believes that this dialogue will begin among Nicaraguans who at this time are setting aside our ideological and philosophical positions and who are assuming our responsibility to the people so this dialogue will be successful. If this dialogue brings about results, if it makes a consensus possible, if this dialogue enriches and strengthens the struggle for peace, then we should all feel proud for having taken this important (?step) [2 second break in reception] for the benefit of our people. If the dialogue fails, we will have betrayed the expectations and hopes of our people.

On behalf of the Nicaraguan Government and people, I welcome you Nicaraguan brothers, representatives of the different opposition parties, to this national dialogue. Thank you very much.

RN Plans 'Capture' of Commission Members

PA031900 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1745 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The "Nicaraguan Resistance" [RN] today threatened to "capture" the members of the international peace commissions who visit the war zones of Nicaragua.

A rebel communique released today in Tegucigalpa claims the peace commissions are "siding" with the Sandinist government, but it did not specify if they regard the commissions to be of a national or international nature.

The rebels warn they have issued instructions to their forces to avail themselves of any military advantage granted to them by the Sandinists and to destroy the largest number of key objectives possible.

It was reported that a unilateral cease-fire decreed by the Managua government was not acceptable because it is "ridiculous and is an invitation to surrender."

The RN warns Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega that it will accept a cease-fire only if it is negotiated under international supervision.

Expropriation Rescinding 'Not Retroactive'

PA030305 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 29 Sep 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Since it went into affect after the revolution's triumph, the law of absentee owners has been used against 412 people. However, although the law was recently rescinded, none of those affected by it will have their property returned, Nicaraguan Justice Minister Rodrigo Reyes said in an interview with ANN reporter Edgar Barberena.

The law of absentee owners rescinded by the National Assembly on 22 September on the request of Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega was only used against 412 people. This was confirmed in an exclusive interview with Justice Minister Rodrigo Reyes.

[Reyes] "That law was promulgated in 1981 or 1982. It stated that anyone who remained outside of Nicaragua for over 6 months could be declared absent. Once they were declared absent, their property was turned over to the state. In the 5 or 6 years that the law was in effect, the Justice Ministry used it in 412 cases."

The law that went into effect on 19 July 1981 was used against people closely linked to the Somozist dictatorship and other sectors that are part of the counterrevolution. Minister Reyes Portocarrero stated that in many cases the absence from the country was justified and therefore the law was not used against many people. The law was titled: Law of State Expropriation of Abandoned Goods.

[Reyes] "Those 412 cases were distributed throughout the various Nicaraguan regions. We issued approximately 4,500 decisions justifying the absence of some people. In other words, the decision stated that the absentee owner could send a representative and justify his absence. If the ministry decided that the absence was justified, the law was not used against the person.

"During this process we issued approximately 4,500 decisions justifying absences. As I told you, 412 people were affected by the law. That is the total number of absentee owner decisions that we issued in Nicaragua based on Decree No 160.

"The decree was rescinded as part of the Guatemala agreements, because evidently such a decree creates a certain concern and uneasiness among Nicaraguans. The Guatemala agreements seek national reconciliation, calm, and a new rapprochement of the Nicaraguan family. Based on that, the government decided to rescind Decree No 160 as part of the Guatemala agreements in order to seek national reconciliation and internal detente. That decree caused great concern and uneasiness among Nicaraguans, especially those who own property. Those who do not own anything did not have any problem with that decree."

Finally, Justice Minister Reyes talked about the nonretroactive nature of Nicaraguan laws.

[Reyes] "There is not only a Nicaraguan legal principle but a world legal principle that states that laws are not retroactive; laws are for the future. Therefore, this new decree is valid as of its promulgation and the effects of the previous law remain in force and cannot be amended, if the law itself does not amend it. Because the law itself did not amend it, the new law rescinding Decree No 160, which is the law of absentee owners, is valid as of its promulgation, so all the property previously expropriated remains in the hands of the state or in the hands of those to whom the state allotted it."

Ramirez on C.A. Parliament Draft Treaty

PA031521 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Oct 87

[From the "Extra" newcast]

[Text] The Central American presidents signed a treaty [as heard] creating the Central American Parliament. The area vice presidents approved and signed the treaty creating the Central American Parliament during the 2-day meeting with the Preparatory Commission in Guatemala. Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado, who returned last night from the Guatemala meeting, said that the vice presidents unanimously signed, without making any objections, the document approved at the Tegucigalpa meeting on 11 September. Here is Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez exclusively for "Extra" newcast:

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] At the meeting of vice presidents, deputies, parliamentarians, and UN representatives, we approved the draft treaty to create a Central American Parliament, which will be presented to the Central American presidents. They will review the draft treaty during their 5 January meeting. Thus, the discussions have ended.

Our delegation was comprised of representatives from the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, the Popular Social Christian Party, and the FSLN bloc. The agreement was approved unanimously. We can categorically affirm that the Central American parliament will be created.

[Reporter] How is Nicaragua's implementation of the Esquipulas agreements analyzed abroad?

[Ramirez] We had the opportunity to explain that matter at length. There is a positive attitude toward Nicaragua, because we are closely complying with our commitments.

[Reporter] What comments did you hear in Guatemala regarding the reopening of Radio Catolica and *La Prensa*?

[Ramirez] These aspects are viewed as serious steps taken by Nicaragua to abide by the Esquipulas agreements. In fact, today it was up to the Honduran vice president to answer the sort of questions that I constantly answer at this sort of meeting. He was asked why Honduras is not taking the steps that Nicaragua is taking to comply with the agreements. The questions posed imply an awareness that we are abiding by the agreements. [end recording]

Panama

Foreign Minister Abadia Speech at UN

PA021250 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 1 Oct 87, pp 20, 21, 25

[Speech by Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia at the UN General Assembly on 30 September]

[Text] Mr Chairman: At the beginning of this statement, I would have liked to properly voice Panama's satisfaction over the choosing of so meritorious a person to preside over the UN General Assembly's 42d session. I also would have liked to express a very special recognition of your predecessor's praiseworthy actions during

his term. Also, I would have liked to refer carefully to the tireless and constant devotion of Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to the cause of peace and the strengthening of this organization.

In addition, and in keeping with a tradition of many years, I would have liked to begin this statement by making a detailed description of the major world problems and by presenting Panama's position in relation to these problems. Nevertheless, I must make such remarks as short as possible because this time I have come in the name of a threatened and injured people, a humiliated and attacked nation.

On 7 September, we commemorated the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties between my country and the United States. In 1977 this event was unanimously hailed by the international community and, particularly, by the countries of the American Continent, all of which saw in these treaties the establishment of a deadline to end colonialism in Panamanian territory and the hope of eradicating every trace of the colonial past from the lands of America.

Unfortunately, the 10th anniversary of the treaties did not constitute a celebration for we Panamanians, who underscored the date by voicing our indignation and bitter disappointment at seeing that the disposition and determination of the time when the treaties were signed has been distorted and replaced by a plan of aggression. Already in the execution stage, this plan was carefully drafted and organized and stubbornly followed to turn our hopes for independence and sovereignty into a laughable and crude farce.

Last year, and in this room, Panama's president reported that the most regressive U.S. sectors, with the servile support from the Panamanian opposition's far rightists, had mounted a campaign of discredit against leading Panamanian Government officials to undermine our efforts in the Contadora Group to pacify Central America. This campaign was also aimed at silencing our demands for a thorough correction of the violations of the Canal Treaties.

During this year, we have seen this campaign aggravated with all types of groundless charges, particularly against the authorities who most determinedly have been struggling for peace in Central America and who most firmly have opposed the U.S. intention to both reestablish and continue to enforce a colonial policy in the canal area and turn the Panamanian Government into a submissive colony.

Panama never had the chance to exercise its right to respond concerning the media network that has manipulated the news, so the slander increased and spread; and its damaging effects quickly multiplied, because the moral aggression that comprises phase one of a domination plan was necessary to prepare the U.S. people so they would condemn [as published] any action against Panama, any injustice, any violation, and any violation of the UN and OAS Charters. Since the achievement of this goal implies a deep understanding of the U.S. people's democratic sensibility and a great familiarity with the most adequate methods of deceit to turn a slanderous statement into a generally accepted truth, U.S. Embassy personnel in Panama were systematically replaced; administrative and technical personnel were increased; there was an attempt to install satellite communication equipment, violating the 1961 Vienna Convention; a team was comprised to welcome and guide officials, politicians, and correspondents—thus manipulating their views about Panama; and a story on alleged violations of human rights and on the alleged weakness of our democratic institutions was clumsily prepared. It seems that the U.S. diplomatic mission has become a factory of slander and lies that has its own distribution and dissemination mechanisms. The protests we sent to the highest-level U.S. officials on this issue have yet to receive a reply.

Other governments of the world—which have access to information sources that no one twists or manipulates, which abide by their own principles, and which act according to their own interests—know that the situation is different, and they must be asking themselves why the United States acts like this toward Panama. The answers to this question will be seen later on, because I must continue with the second phase of the plan: the economic aggression.

The Panamanian revolutionary government has achieved a magnificent goal during the last 10 years: the creation of a great financial center, based on the very special advantages that my country can offer; and this center has become a new source of riches and employment for the Panamanian people. The U.S. Government increased its pressure for Panama to reform its banking law when foreign banks began to open more branches and the funds deposited in those banks increased by the millions. If those reforms were implemented, the banks would consider it more convenient and profitable to transfer their operations to another country, thus ending this flourishing activity that represents 9,000 permanent jobs.

The financial center was added to the plan of aggression because the slander campaign against Panama did not damage the financial center and because Panama had agreed to make specific modifications that would help the joint efforts made against the illicit drug trade. In the past 3 and 1/2 months, most of the seditious activities have taken place in the heart of the Panama City banking district, because newscasts showing people burning a car or garbage bags against the background of a foreign bank's sign achieves an effect that slanders in the media have not been able to accomplish.

Just 3 months ago Panama denounced the U.S. resolution that violated fundamental and accepted international principles of the OAS and the Nonaligned Movement for the peaceful coexistence of nations. In its

arrogant excesses, the resolution dared to mention legal norms and formulas that should be applied to relieve Panamanian officials of their posts. These Panamanians had been marked as the underlings that had to disappear from the infamous chessboard they had contrived.

During the past week, chiefs of state or chiefs of government and representatives of different countries expressed their support for the Central American cause and reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of the UN Charter at this forum. In the meantime, the U.S. Senate, with absolute disregard for international legal norms, approved a resolution that ties economic assistance, military aid, and exports of weapons to Panama, as well as imports of Panamanian sugar to the United States, to the establishment within a 45-day period of a transitional civilian government in Panama that would adjust to the will of the U.S. senators.

Ironies appear frequently in history when oppressors make blunders that favor the oppressed. In this case, the last days of the given deadline coincide with the Panamanian national holidays and the deadline expires on the eve of our celebration of our independence from the Spanish empire. That day, Mr President, we will reaffirm that independence with strength and determination.

As if violating the principles of a country's right to self-determination and noninterference were not enough, the Senate's latest resolution infringes on specific norms approved by the UN General Assembly. Allow me, Mr President, to point out a few.

Article 32 of the State's Charter of Economic Rights and Duties states that "no state may employ economic, political, or other measures, nor promote the employment of such measures, with the objective of forcing another state to subordinate its sovereign rights."

General Assembly Resolution No 36-103 on halting intervention in the internal affairs of the member states clearly states that "the duty of states is to conduct their international relations in economic, social, technical, and commercial areas and to abstain from adopting measures that would imply meddling or intervention in the domestic or foreign affairs of another state, thus preventing another state from freely determining its own political, economic, and social development." The resolution adds that this includes, among other things, the duty of a state to not use its external economic assistance programs, reprisal measures, or multilateral and unilateral economic embargoes to pressure or to politically repress another state, in violation of the UN Charter.

In Resolution No 41-64, approved last year, the General Assembly "reaffirms that developed countries should abstain from threatening to apply commercial restrictions, embargoes, and other economic sanctions on developing countries as a means to exert political and economic pressure that would hinder the developing countries' economic, political, and social development, because such measures are incompatible with the UN Charter and violate multilateral or bilateral agreements."

Mr President,

I hereby want to state in this Assembly that, regardless of how overwhelming and overpowering a nation may be, it will never have the power to change the meaning of the statutes or to evade the moral sanction of the other nations in the event that such statutes are violated.

On Wednesday, 23 September, at noon—while the U.S. ambassador was having a luncheon at his official residence with his minister counselor [title as published] and several opposition members known as the main local leaders of this attempt to overthrow the Panamanian Government, which I have been reporting—more than 100 soldiers from the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in the defense sites located in the areas surrounding the canal, and there for the exclusive purpose of defending the canal, arrived at the U.S. Embassy in two buses and remained there in violation of procedures established in the Panama Canal Treaties in 1977 and in its related agreements for the deployment and transportation of those foreign troops.

At the same time, a Blackhawk UH-60 helicopter with registration No M-23985 from the Howard military base near the canal, without using the established air corridors and violating Panamanian airspace, landed some 10 km from the Rio Hato Airport northern runway, where the Panama Defense Forces have military installations. The pilot refused to respond to the control tower's request that he identify himself and state the purpose of the trip. The helicopter fled when Panamanian ground patrols approached the area.

Allow me to explain, Mr President, that I mention these details—although it is not customary in UN General Assembly speeches—because one of the Republic of Panama's main strengths is derived from the support for my people's national liberation cause that is kindled in other nations as a result of these outrages.

The Panama Canal Treaties, which will have been valid for 8 years tomorrow, very intentionally took into consideration the Panamanian people's patriotic sensitivity's having been deeply hurt for many years by the U.S. military presence in the enclave, which they have maintained in the canal area through 75 years of humiliations and vexations committed by U.S. soldiers, who repeatedly have behaved like victorious troops of occupation. For that reason, the treaties included provisions that even banned the use of foreign military uniforms outside specific, established defense sites, with the exception of official ceremonies.

With deep sadness and indignation, I must stress here that a luncheon meeting of the head of a diplomatic mission and his immediate subordinate with the leaders of a movement that is trying to overthrow the government of the country to which they are accredited is not an official meeting, but is a planned and deliberate provocation that attempts to create a situation suitable for some violent action that would justify—to U.S. public opinion—an aggression, which is the third phase of the plan.

As expected, the entire nation has reacted against those actions through statements by labor leaders and associations, as well as students, who protested with a language that has not been heard in my country since the time that followed the brutal aggression carried out by U.S. troops against the Panamanian civilian population, which resulted in 20 deaths and over 500 injuries.

Why such excesses? Why is such a powerful and huge country so merciless with a nation that has rendered it great services and with a people that always offered it its friendship?

Rulers will understand soon that this atrocious game of slanders and lies cannot continue without endangering their own democratic institutions. Therefore, it is necessary to mention the reasons that move the sinister forces against Panamanian independence and sovereignty, as well as against the government, which is now defending its sovereignty and independence in an unequal battle.

For 5 years, the Colombian, Mexican, Venezuelan, and Panamanian Governments have been attempting to promote a peaceful negotiated solution in Central America. On several occasions and with similar or different resources, depending on the case, foreign intervention has been used in an attempt to defeat the initiative that was born in 1983. That initiative first gathered the countries of the Contadora Group and then those of the Support Group, with the approval of all nations in general, but particularly with the frank and determined support of the EEC member states.

We have had to pay a price because of our insistence on finding a Latin American solution to this Latin American problem. The pressures exerted against the Panamanian Government in an effort to make Panama withdraw from the Contadora Group and withdraw its support from the cause of peace in the region increased to the same degree that we surpassed problem after problem—created or promoted by the U.S. Government—and the possibilities of peace began to appear more clearly.

When the position of the four countries of the Contadora Group became consolidated with the position of Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay, a member of the U.S. National Security Council came to Panama to personally demand that the Panamanian Government withdraw from Contadora. General Manuel Antonio Noriega's reply that this demand was an insult to the dignity of his people and nation immediately led to the creation of a plan to subdue Panama. U.S. diplomatic personnel were totally replaced within 3 months, and then there were changes in the number of technical and administrative personnel and in the number of troops stationed on the banks of the canal, disregarding the ban in this regard in the treaties between the two countries.

The backward forces within the U.S. Government that have plotted to destroy the independence of Panama felt it was necessary to replace the Panamanian Government with a docile government that would blindly follow orders.

Mr Chairman, during the 41st session of this Assembly, President Eric Arturo Delvalle reported in the Panama declaration that there was a plot to prevent the Canal Treaties from culminating in the canal's being turned over to full Panamanian control at the end of 12 more years, simultaneously with the end of the U.S. military presence in our territory.

That statement and the additional charges of the many violations committed by the United States gave a new impetus to the plan of aggression that had already been launched by manipulating some sectors of the U.S. communications media and local and foreign news agencies, to the point that the slanderous ideas that had been invented as the main weapon of the dirty war declared against the men that defend the independence and sovereignty of my country were accepted as truth.

Mr Chairman,

The UN organization was the beautiful and hopeful result of the sacrifice mankind endured in the struggle against barbaric fascism. Its most powerful members paid with numerous human lives and a tremendous toll of destruction the tragic lessons that I am now mentioning, because 50 years is not enough for the peoples to forget.

In the structure, methods, and procedures of the forces it has allied itself with, and in its tactics, the movement that is threatening my country presents terrifying coincidences with the fascist movements that were the scourge of Europe.

Despite those coincidences and in support of that movement, the U.S. Senate chose to play the sinister cards of interventionism and economic aggression. That represents a serious danger for the Latin American nations and a palpable threat to world peace. If the United States uses all its power to impose a government headed by a minority that is submissive to all its desires of domination in Panama, no nation in the world would allow its independence and sovereignty to be granted for fear that a similar action could take place in its own territories.

I would not be here denouncing all these actions if the Panamanian people had not rejected the seditious outbreak, which, with the support, help, and instigation of some U.S. sectors, tried to overthrow the Panamanian Government and to replace it with a provisional one subordinated to the orders of the U.S. Embassy in Panama.

Since early in this decade, and only two years after the Canal Treaties had come into effect, Panama has been getting inquiries and other kinds of statements on the possibility of reaching an agreement to extend authorization for the presence of U.S. military installations in Panamanian territory after the year 2000.

Prominent and representative members of the U.S. Armed Forces have insistently asserted that the problem of the military presence—which will end in 12 years, according to the Panama Canal Treaties of 1977—forced the U.S. Government to make decisions and take actions that should begin to be implemented in 1989 at the latest; or, in other words, in 15 months.

Although the 1977 treaties establish that the U.S. Armed Forces should gradually decrease in number and should gradually and in an orderly way turn over their defensive functions in the canal to the Panama Defense Forces, we verify that in the last 5 years the U.S. military presence in Panama has increased considerably instead of decreasing, and an increase in the participation of Panamanian citizens in canal activities, which should occur, has been systematically forgotten or put aside.

In the last few years high-level U.S. officials and military men have been frequently and increasingly presenting the expiration of the Canal Treaties and the end of the U.S. military presence in Panama as a problem that requires immediate attention.

The Panamanian Government has had only one reply to such inquiries and veiled proposals presented to it, and this has always been that Panama demands that the Canal Treaties be fulfilled to the letter.

Therefore, it is clearly evident that the minority political forces comprising the movement against the Panamanian Government have always supported the idea of retaining U.S. military bases in Panama after the year 2000.

Shortly before the riot organized against the Panamanian constitutional government began, there were discussions and reports in the U.S. Congress dealing with the financial costs of keeping the existing installations in Panama and with its effects on U.S. strategic interests.

Recent documents issued by the U.S. Department of State have reached inconceivable extremes of shamelessness. Some of them have recommended measures to form a new government in Panama that would defend U.S. strategic interests.

Among this conspiracy's excesses against my country, I cite the fact that the U.S. Senate is trying to impose a provisional government in Panama that—according to repeated public statements made by the seditious group's principal leaders—would have as president the same man who was overthrown in 1941 because of his intentions to ally Panama with Hitler's Germany.

This is another example of the plot against Panama, and once again we have seen the dangers this brings to the rest of the continent and to this organization's ideals.

Mr President,

Panama is aware of the high price it is paying for its independent foreign policy and reiterates its invariable adherence to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. It also hopes a new international economic order will be established soon.

Panama joins the promoters of the new wave of Latin American unity and believes that to strengthen that unity, peace in Central America must be achieved and understanding and generosity must be exercised so Bolivia may have its outlet to the sea. With such demonstrations of maturity and solidarity, the Latin American countries can improve their fight for Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia, and the South Sandwich Islands, for Puerto Rican self-determination, and for a political resolution of the foreign debt problem. The Latin American countries should also find a solution to the drug trafficking problem as a service to other nations where this scourge contributes to the moral decomposition of huge sectors of the population. Likewise, we can put up an invincible front against the false accusations used as weapons against our nations' independence and sovereignty.

As a country in which all forms of racial discrimination disappeared over half a century before the United States abolished slavery, Panama condemns divisions of society in South Africa, reiterates its solidarity with the Namibian people, renews its support to Spain regarding its aspirations in Gibraltar, calls for peace between Iran and Iraq and in Lebanon, and expresses its support for any negotiations leading to peace between Israel and the Arabs based on Israel's right to exist within safe borders and also based on the Palestinian people's rights.

Panama once again reiterates its people's solidarity with the Saharan people, shares the desire of Cyprus, Afghanistan, and Cambodia to rid themselves of all foreign military presence, and expresses its hope of having the ROK and the DPRK represented in this organization as member countries. The proposals for holding a foreign ministers meeting to discuss the unification of the Korean penninsula should be given prompt attention.

Despite the moral and economic aggression its faces and the danger of a military attack, Panama will continue struggling for a Latin American solution for the Central

American crisis and will continue demanding compliance with the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties, which call for turning over the canal in good condition to full Panamanian control and an end to the U.S. military presence on 31 December 1999.

Mr President,

The Republic of Panama is already entitled to invoke the principles of this organization and to resort to all the legitimate means that the norms of international law offer. It begins to do so by denouncing U.S. violations of those principles and norms, first by a prolonged and fierce moral aggression against the Panamanian Government, and then with a calculated and despicable economic aggression.

In addition, I must say that those principles and norms are in danger of becoming obsolete with the use of force against my country's independence. The magnitude of this danger, Mr President, must be measured with the knowledge that Panamanians will continue struggling for our national liberation, regardless of the difficult times we might have to face and no matter what the extent of sacrifice may be to defend the Panamanian nation from its aggressors. We will never yield.

Argentina

Wrap-up on Eduard Shevardnadze Visit

Further on News Conference

PY051238 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Oct 87 pp 1,4

[Text] Argentina and the Soviet Union will sign a long-term overall cooperation program, similar to the ones the Soviet Union signed with India and Brazil, "to increase bilateral trade beyond the sale of Argentine agricultural products." This comment was made by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during a news conference held yesterday afternoon at the Soviet Embassy, where he is staying.

Also attending were Ambassador Oleg Kvasov, officials of the Soviet Embassy in our country, and a large number of local and foreign journalists.

The news conference started precisely on time at 1700 and ended shortly after 1800, when Shevardnadze expressed his gratitude for "the hospitality and expressions of sympathy" received from "both the authorities and the people," and discussed the talks held during his 3-day [figure as published] visit—on Monday he will depart for Montevideo—to Argentina.

Shevardnadze's schedule yesterday was limited to signing a joint protocol expressing a willingness to increase Argentine-Soviet friendship ties. The procotol included an agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation.

Today, following the suspension of his visit to Mendoza, due to the "tiredness" he has been experiencing during his Latin American tour, the Soviet foreign minister will just tour the city, Soviet Embassy sources said. Last night Foreign Minister Dante Caputo hosted a private dinner for Shevardnadze at his home. Mrs Caputo and Mrs Shevardnadze also attended the dinner.

Making an "official summation of my visit to Argentina," the visiting foreign minister began by mentioning his meeting with the Argentine president, to whom he delivered a message from CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

Shevardnadze said: "I was very impressed by Alfonsin." Shevardnadze focused on the main topics he discussed with the Argentine president, including, among other points, disarmament and the foreign debt issue.

Shevardnadze added: "That meeting will serve to strengthen Soviet-Argentine ties." Later, he discussed the talks he held with his Argentine counterpart, Dante Caputo, and the main points of the joint declaration signed by them, a declaration that is being published separately.

Shevardnadze said that while reviewing the way to improve bilateral ties, Caputo "accepted the signing of a long-term cooperation program that will be outlined during the next meeting of an Argentine-Soviet mixed commission."

After stating that "Argentina has also been involved in the Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range missiles," as it is a member of the Group of Six, and it is "championing peace and disarmament," Shevardnadze warned that "if the superpowers arms race extends to outer space, the resulting economic-financial burden will crush the underdeveloped countries."

Concerning the foreign debt issue, Shevardnadze described it as "a malignant tumor in today's world," expressing the need to overcome this problem through the efforts of "the entire international community."

During a news conference, Shevardnadze emphasized the expressions of sympathy that he received from the people and stated that "the applause I received reflects the Argentine people's sympathy for my government." He also mentioned the occasions when he sidestepped protocol to briefly chat with people who approached him.

Shevardnadze gave new details on the "perestroika," that is, the reorganization program being implemented in the Soviet Union. He said: "That transformation is intended to overcome mistakes and design new programs."

In response to a question concerning his opinion on the sale of Argentine weapons to Iran, a country engaged in a military conflict with Iraq, the Soviet foreign minister said: "We do not know anything about that."

Shevardnadze recalled that the USSR "has always recognized Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands." Asked about the Argentine-Soviet fishing agreement in the South Atlantic, he said: "That agreement does not affect the interests of third countries."

After expressing his opinion that Great Britain should withdraw the military forces stationed in the Malvinas Islands, Shevardnadze said: "The Argentine negotiations to recover the islands should continue at a negotiating table."

In addition, Shevardnadze expressed the need to "keep the race between the United States and my country from turning into a struggle for technological monopoly." He reasserted that Soviet foreign policy is based on a "democratic philosophy of international relations, which is making worldwide progress and, as I found out, also exists here in Argentina."

Asked whether it was true that a Soviet ship anchored near the Malvinas Islands recently loaded frozen fish from a Polish fishing boat, thus violating the fishing agreement signed with Argentina, Shevardnadze replied: "Frankly, I do not have any information on that."

In response to another question, Shevardnadze said "there is no problem" with the Jews that wish to leave the USSR, although he admitted that there are certain "bureaucratic limitations, similar to the ones in any other country. Exit is only restricted to those who have access to state secrets."

Regarding the possibilities of a Near East peace conference, Shevardnadze said a consensus has been reached that a conference should be held under the auspices of the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

He also said that negotiations, at a consular level, are under way to resume relations with Israel. Soviet-Israeli relations were severed in 1967. Shevardnadze emphasized that "all the Arab states and many Israelis favor a peace conference designed to end hostilities in the Middle East."

Shevardnadze, in response to a series of questions, then stated that the USSR intends to "maintain good relations, a good exchange, with Latin American countries" and ironically added "some call this penetration..." Regarding grain agreements, he said the USSR "is fulfilling the agreements, not only with Argentina but also with other countries."

Shevardnadze said that "in this regard reciprocity is necessary. Therefore, we seek to broaden bilateral cooperation with Argentina because our trade balance is negative for the USSR. Our relations do not affect third countries, and those who believe the contrary are still living in the Stone Age..."

The Argentine and Soviet foreign ministers signed a joint protocol in which the two governments voice their intention to increase friendship ties and a cultural and scientific exchange agreement for the 1987-88 period. This last agreement ratifies the agreement signed on 29 January 1986 in Moscow.

According to the terms of the protocol, once the Argentine federal capital has been transferred [to Viedma], the Soviet Government will open a consulate general in that city. Argentina, in turn, will open a consulate in a Soviet city mutually agreed on at the same time.

The cultural and scientific exchange program, in the part referring to culture and arts, provides for the organization of tours of singers, acting groups, musicians, artists, and art exhibitions, as well as the exchange of delegations. The two parties will also "collaborate in carrying out activities to celebrate important historical events in Argentina and the USSR and to pay homage to the outstanding personalities who contributed to the development of each country's culture, and will also collaborate in carrying out ceremonies to celebrate the national festivities of each country."

These exchanges will, among other things, promote cooperation between museums, libraries, and other cultural institutions, as well as programs for the exchange of writers' delegations of 2 people at a time for 14-day periods. Moreover, the USSR Director's Union and the corresponding Argentine organization will annually exchange three directors who will take movies to participate in meetings of professional interest; additionally, Argentina will receive the "Urban Spaces in the USSR" exhibit and two Soviet architects who will deliver lectures on "housing construction."

Regarding culture and science, the two countries will promote exchange of information on congresses, symposiums, conferences, and other activities of a scientific nature, as well as encourage the exchange of university professors, scientists, and researchers. The Soviet Union will offer 24 scholarships per year. Three of these scholarships will be for fishing specialists. The exchange of information and documentation of an educational nature will be facilitated.

The program provides for mutual support between the National Directors Institute of Argentina and the Goskino [State Committee for Cinematography] of the USSR, for organization of festivals and the participation of an Argentine delegation in the international movie festival of countries from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, which will be held in Tashkent next year.

Also, the exchange of radio and television programs will be encouraged, cooperation between social communications media of both countries will be facilitated, and cooperation among copyright and publishing houses of both countries will be intensified for the purpose of guaranteeing reciprocal copyrights protection, and of promoting broader dissemination of scientific, literary, and arts works of Soviet and Argentine authors.

The two countries will contribute to expanding and strengthening cooperation in the area of public health and medical science through the exchange of information and experts at the request and invitation of interested organizations in each country.

The Argentine Red Cross and the Union of Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the USSR will exchange materials and movies related to their activities, as well as exchange delegations. The Argentine delegation will visit the Soviet Union in 1987, and the Soviet delegation will visit Argentina in 1988.

Finally, the two governments will promote the development of sports relations through the exchange of sports delegations, teams, sportsmen, coaches, and experts.

These activities will be conducted by sports organizations in both countries in accordance with the principles of cooperation among sports organizations of Argentina and the Soviet Union contained in the September 1974 agreement.

Joint Communique Signed

PY052020 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1850 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (NA)—The importance of the participation of the Argentine private sector in USSR-Argentine economic-commercial relations was noted in the joint declaration signed by Foreign Ministers Eduard Shevardnadze and Dante Caputo today at the end of the visit paid by the Soviet foreign minister to Buenos Aires.

In the document Argentina agreed with the USSR concerning the "threat" posed by the spread of the nuclear arms race to outer space, thus tacitly criticizing U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Star Wars program.

The joint declaration was distributed by the Argentine Foreign Ministry shortly after Shevardnadze left for Montevideo, on the last leg of his Latin American tour, which also included Brazil.

The two ministers "positively assessed the dynamic and multifaceted nature" of the political dialogue between the two countries and reiterated the need to maintain the mechanism of political consultation at the Foreign Ministry level.

In assessing bilateral relations, they agreed on the "convenience of promoting new forms of collaboration, in particular, through industrial cooperation, the creation of joint enterprises and mixed companies."

In this respect the countries will promote the exchange of production processes based on the advanced technologies and association of enterprises of the two countries.

They also noted the importance of the participation of the Argentine private sector in the economic-commercial relations between the two countries and voiced their satisfaction over the development of cooperation in the fishing sector within the framework of the cooperation agreement that was implemented in March 1987.

The communique mentions the cultural and scientific exchange program for the 1987-88 period which was signed by the two ministers. They also agreed that after the Argentine Federal Capital is transferred to Viedma-Carmen de Patagones, the USSR will open a consulate general in that city. Argentina, for its part, at a suitable time will open a consulate in a Soviet city to be chosen by mutual agreement.

In reviewing key foreign policy issues, Shevardnadze and Caputo voiced their respective countries' "deep concern" over the "threat posed to mankind by the continued build-up of the arms race, especially nuclear weapons, and of the danger of its spreading to outer space."

The communique goes on to state that "Argentina believes that international security must not be based on the possession and continuous stockpiling of nuclear weapons and noted that nothing justifies resorting to nuclear weapons as a means to guarantee security."

The Soviet Union, for its part, condemns the approach to international affairs based on the concept of nuclear deterrence, and the two countries agreed that "mankind's survival depends on a nuclear-free world."

During his talks with Caputo and President Alfonsin, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze explained his country's foreign policy program which envisages a complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons and other types of mass destruction weapons by the end of this century.

The Soviet foreign minister also confirmed the basic principle of his country's military doctrine, which is "strictly defensive," like that of the other Warsaw Pact countries.

Shevardnadze told his Argentine counterpart about the recent agreements signed with the United States on the elimination of medium-range missiles and operational-tactical missiles, as well as the start of "full-scale" talks on the limitation and, ultimately, the complete cessation, of nuclear tests.

The joint document noted that both parties agreed that "these agreements open up a real opportunity for progress along the path of eliminating the nuclear threat, and expressed confidence that they will have a positive influence on the course of talks across the entire range of important disarmament questions."

When discussing Star Wars, the two foreign ministers said that they oppose the outer space arms race, and said that "the terms of the 1967 treaty on outer space and other treaties must be followed."

The two ministers agreed that outer space "must be used exclusively for peaceful objectives within the framework of international cooperation among nations, without discrimination."

They also expressed their "confidence" that the negotiations related to a consensus on prohibition and elimination of the chemical weapons "will soon be reached."

Regarding the Central American conflict, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze said that "his government is happy about the agreement recently reached by the five Central

American countries in Guatemala," and pointed out that this agreement "is extremely important and will lead to a peaceful and permanent solution of the regional crisis."

Regarding the Malvinas, Argentina and the Soviet Union confirmed their position regarding the necessity of reaching a "fair and definitive" solution to the conflict through negotiations with the UK and Northern Ireland, as recommended in the UN General Assembly resolutions.

Regarding the foreign debt, the two ministers agreed that "the colossal drain on developing countries' resources as a result of the payment of interest on foreign debts is a heavy burden shackling these countries' opportunities for economic growth."

The ministers also pointed out that trade discrimination prevents the developing countries from entering international markets. They also said that "unhealthy" competition and protectionism "definitely lead to a sharp reduction in developing countries'exports and revenue, and consequently undermine their ability to repay their external debts,"

Regarding terrorism, the two ministers voiced "their profound concern about increased terrorist activities, including state terrorism."

In this regard, they expressly criticized any type of terrorist activities, perpetrated by individuals, groups, or states, and deemed it necessary to combat terrorism through all legal means.

They also expressed concern at "the wide spread of drug addiction and illegal drug trade in the world." They confirmed the USSR and Argentine decision "to make the maximum effort at both the national and international levels to combat this most dangerous social ill."

Makes Departure Statement

PY051753 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Report on remarks by Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at Ezeiza International Airport, on the occasion of Shevardnadze's departure from Argentina—Shevardnadze statement in Russian, with passage-by-passage translation into Spanish]

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his entourage have left for Montevideo, Uruguay from the Ezeiza International Airport. He was seen off at the airport by Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

We will first listen to Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's words and then to Foreign Minister Caputo.

[Begin recording] [Shevardnadze] [in progress] (?I would like) to say goodbye to Argentina. I leave this country with profound impressions.

I have already said that we held a very interesting meeting with the Argentine president and we also held very interesting and extensive talks on important issues with Foreign Minister Caputo.

We signed important documents. I believe the most important result of these talks is that we have agreed Foreign Minister Caputo will visit the Soviet Union.

We believe that our most important task now is to do our best to prepare ourselves for this visit, which will undoubtedly be one of great importance.

Once again, thank you very much.

[Caputo] Very well, I would simply like to reassert the statement by his excellency. I would like to say we have held important talks during the past few days, both with President Alfonsin and with Foreign Ministry officials, within the framework of issues of common interest which were basically centered on achieving peace and (?detente) at the international level.

We also, obviously, discussed bilateral issues. We want to thank Minister Shevardnadze for this visit and congratulate him on his success. Thank you very much. [end recording]

Sourrouille, Brodersohn Return From U.S.

PY012322 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1914 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Oct (TELAM)—Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille and Finance Secretary Mario Brodersohn returned this afternoon to Argentina after participating in the joint meeting of the IMF and the World Bank in the United States. At the meeting, they debated the topic of the foreign debt.

Upon his arrival at Ezeiza International Airport, the economy minister did not speak to the press, but Brodersohn did. He recalled that on 6 October, the banks have to give us $750 million in fresh money.

The official denied that, during the talks with representatives of the IMF and the World Bank, they had asked for a waiver [preceding word in English] of the fiscal, monetary, and trade goals that had been agreed upon with those organizations. Such agreements are linked to the agreement that we have with the IMF.

We have only talked with the IMF, he said. We are waiting for information on the rules of the game—not for the goals. If we do not comply with the rules, then we will ask for a waiver [preceding word in English], but we will not know about this until mid-October.

Sourrouille on Economic Crisis

PY051446 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Oct (TELAM)—Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille has said that continuous economic adjustments in Argentina to conform to imbalances produced in the North are no longer acceptable. He added that our country has been growing ever since discussions of economic reform problems began.

Argentina reiterated at the IMF interim committee meetings that the current situation is untenable, that countries talk of growth as if it were a principle shared by all in order to propose that this be the nucleus of a new strategy for financial and trade relations, Sourrouille added.

Sourrouille made these statements during the program "Morning, Afternoon and Night," broadcast by Radio Universidad de la Plata. Sourrouille added that this situation will require adjustments involving industrialized countries, because, he said, that is where most of the imbalances originate.

Sourrouille said it is difficult to understand why the IMF continues to increase its reserves in the midst of a critical international economic situation and added that the mistake stems from IMF administrative policies.

Sourrouille said Argentina has been growing since it began to deal with the problems of economic reform, and added: We accommodate the Argentine economy to the idea of a growth rate that can be sustained over a long period.

It is silly to adjust something for the sole purpose of adjusting. It is more sensible to try to prevent future conditions and adjust the economy accordingly, Sourrouille said.

No one wants to pay the entire amount of interest payments exactly at the time they fall due. Hence, refinancing has to contemplate longer terms of maturity than what is accepted today.

Sourrouille stressed that our country has negotiated all the maturities of the principal and has obtained a 6-year grace period during which it will not pay anything. He added that payments will only start 12 years from now.

Sourrouille said, however, that the same was not possible with interest payments and this is the cause of the continuous negotiations that until now have only produced very short-term rescheduling solutions.

Officer Involvement With U.S. General Denied

PY060218 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2305 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (NA)—The office of the Army chief of staff today denied that Colonel Raul Julio Gomez Sabaini had been involved with U.S. Army General John Galvin and had met with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, as stated in a press report, which noted that as a result of that meeting the colonel was not included on the list of promotions to general.

The newspaper *Pagina 12* published the report last Thursday and again today, stating that Gomez Sabaini accompanied Gen John Galvin at a meeting with the foreign minister at which the U.S. general reportedly called Caputo's attention to the need for the Argentine Armed Forces to join the struggle against drug trafficking.

According to the report, Caputo's refusal to adhere to that U.S. policy reportedly caused the U.S. Army general, who is the NATO commander in chief, to become upset.

According to the report, Gomez Sabaini ignored a request by the foreign minister to remain at the Foreign Ministry and left with Galvin. According to the newspaper, that attitude displeased Caputo, which "could be one reason he was removed from the future military leadership."

In view of these reports, the office of the Army chief of staff this afternoon reported that "this Argentine Army officer was never involved with Gen John Galvin and never accompanied him on any visit," adding that "he has never participated in any meeting with the Argentine foreign minister."

Report on Arms Sales to Iran Denied

PY051755 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1712 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Oct (TELAM)—A high-ranking source at the Defense Ministery today denied that Argentina had sold Iran 50 Condor-type missiles with a range of 850 km and 600 Alacran-type missiles with a range of 150 km. The source affirmed that reports referring to such sales are totally false.

A report of such sales was carried in a Buenos Aires newspaper in a dispatch from the Italian newspaper *Corriere Della Sera.*

The report further says that more armaments might be sold to Iran. The same source, however, denied this, saying that no deliveries are planned to Iran and no agreement whatsoever exists with that country.

Brazil

Central Bank Chairman on Foreign Debt Issue

PY031846 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Central Bank President Fernando Milliet today arrived in Sao Paulo,and denied reports that the United States no longer wants to lend money to Brazil.

However, Milliet admitted the existence of ill will among some bankers.

Following are Milliet's comments to reporter [William Jose Sartori]:

[Begin recording] It is not true that the United States denied a new $10.4-billion loan for Brazil.

Some bankers may have expressed ill will. This must have been the case, especially at the beginning when the positive points of the Brazilian foreign debt proposal were not fully assimilated yet.

What they want, and I find this to be reasonable, is to review the figures that Brazil used to set the country's refinancing requirements at $10.4 billion.

They must now convince themselves that those figures actually reflect our requirements. They never said they would not [words indistinct]. They just do not want to commit themselves to supplying figures without having a chance to carefully review those figures. [end recording]

Poll Results on Parliamentary System

PY051543 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Oct 87 p A6

[All figures as received]

[Text] Forty-three percent of Brazilians living in major cities of the country favor a parliamentary government system while 36 percent favor maintaining the presidential government system in the future constitution. The majority of Brazilians (83 percent) want the decision of the Constituent Assembly to be approved by a plebiscite. This information is the result of the largest poll ever conducted on the subject by the Datafolha organization which has surveyed 5,622 people in 11 Brazilian capitals. Seventy-two percent of those polled think the Constituent Assembly must reduce President Sarney's presidential term to 4 years and that he should call for direct presidential elections in November 1988.

The poll was conducted in the following cities: Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte (Minas Gerais), Porto Alegre (Rio Grande do Sul), Curitiba (Parana), Salvador (Bahia), Fortaleza (Ceara), Recife (Pernambuco), Brasilia, Goiania (Goias), and Belem (Para). Most of the people (48 percent) in these cities do not believe the new constitution will improve their lives.

The parliamentary government system is favored in Sao Paulo (48 percent as opposed to the 31 percent who favor the presidential government system), in Belo Horizonte (45 percent to 36 percent), Curitiba (49 percent to 37 percent), Porto Alegre (50 percent to 35 percent), and Salvador (50 percent to 38 percent). However, the presidential government system is preferred in Rio de Janeiro (42 percent to 35 percent) and Recife (36 percent to 30 percent). The opinion of those polled in Fortaleza, Goiania, and Brasilia is equally divided; that is, both systems received 50 percent of the votes. Regarding a call for a plebiscite, the highest percentages favoring it came from Brasilia (88 percent), Salvador (87 percent), and Goiania (86 percent).

In the 11 capitals where the poll was conducted, most of the population prefers reducing President Sarney's government term to 4 years. This possibility is favored by 75 percent of the people of Salvador, and 74 percent of those in Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, and Porto Alegre. However, an average of 12 percent favor a 5-year presidential term (with the highest percentages coming from Curitiba (19 percent) and Brasilia (18 percent).

The Sao Paulo inhabitants' opinion of President Sarney's government term remains unchanged since April, when 72 percent of the people favored a 4-year presidential term. This percentage increased to 77 percent in May, and has currently dropped to 74 percent. The people's preference for a parliamentary government system has also varied very little: 50 percent of the people preferred the parliamentary system in April. This rate increased to 55 percent in May, and it has currently dropped to 48 percent.

FAB To Establish Strategic Air Command

PY020006 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Sep 87 p 7

[Text] Aeronautics minister Octavio Moreira Lima has said the plan of the Aeronautics Ministry is to establish a new military command: the Strategic Air Command. He made these remarks during a closed meeting of Brazilian Air Force [FAB] officers, which was held at the General Staff and Command School in Rio de Janeiro. The new command will give Brazil a military structure in the aeronautics field similar to that of developed countries, where the professional level in the Armed Forces is significantly higher.

The priority of the Strategic Air Command will be to evaluate the needs in two main fields: strategic aviation and strategic reconnaissance.

The strategic plan establishes goals for the next 10 years. The fulfillment of those goals will depend on the budget appropriations during the period. Some of the outstanding goals of the plan are to carry out Project Dacta II and to construct Dacta III [Air Traffic Defense and Control Systems], which will allow the reinforcement of flight

protection and air defense in the north and northeast regions. Another item calls for the purchase of four Brasilia airplanes (four have already been purchased).

The FAB has already modified four Boeing-707's acquired from Varig into KC airplanes for mid-air refueling of Mirage and F-5's supersonic fighters, thus increasing their range and usefulness. In 1988, the FAB will receive six more Mirages purchased in France. Meanwhile, negotiations with the Chilean Air Force for the purchase of 16 F-5's continue.

The prices quoted by Chile were considered high.However, negotiations continue thanks to the good relations between the Air Forces of the two countries, and there is still the possibility of an agreement that satisfies the interests of both parties.

The FAB will purchase 6 additional Bandeirante airplanes to the strengthen Project Calha Norte [establishing a security corridor against smugglers and terrorists in the northern border areas], and 10 Bandeirante-patrol planes known as "Bandeirulha" to continue its program of modernization, which despite slow progress, must continue.

The Mirages and F-5's will be refurbished. The modernization will include the change of some components. The same thing will be done with the P-16's from the aircraft carrier *Minas Gerais*. The project to transform the *Minas Gerais* into a helicopter-carrier is almost complete.

Missile To Be Built With British Aerospace

PY051614 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Sep 87 p 2

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro—The MSA-3, a missile made in Brazil with British Aerospace cooperation, will be ready for launching in 18 months. This information was released yesterday in Rio de Janeiro by experts from the British firm, and confirmed by Air Marshal David Evans, who is the British Aerospace military adviser and a member of Princess Anne's retinue visiting Brazil.

Evans, whose main mission to Brazil is to sell BA-146 airplanes to companies that operate the Rio de Janeiro-Sao Paulo commuter flights, said that the first talks between Brazil and British Aerospace about the MSA-3 began nearly 2 years ago, when "the Brazilian Army showed interest in developing an air defense system. Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] and British Aerospace then formed the Orbita company to develop the project."

The air marshal said the Brazilian and British company is currently developing the economic part of the project and that the missile will be launched for the first time, in a year and a half. During this time frame, according to British Aerospace experts, Brazil will be able to start offering this new missile in the international weapon market.

Evans said his company's main interest was not only to sell the missile to the Brazilian Armed Forces. "We must consider that Brazil is the world's fifth largest weapons exporter, that is why we decided to transfer to it the manufacturing technology of the MSA-3. We also discussed the possibilities this country has in the international market."

According to British Aerospace experts, the MSA-3 is "only the beginning of what may become a long relationship between the company and the Brazilian Armed Forces." According to them, the next project to be jointly developed is a military communications satellite. [passage omitted]

Agrarian Reform Minister Discusses Program

PY021241 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Sep 87 p 12

[Interview with Agrarian Reform Minister Jader Barbalho by unidentified O GLOBO correspondent;date-,place not given]

[Text] Brasilia—Jader Barbalho, a PMDB member and the fourth Agrarian Reform minister of the 2 and 1/2 year old administration of the New Republic, has said that he has no commitments to any ideological group and that, consequently, his office will be open to everyone, even to the Ruralist Democratic Union [UDF].

During an interview with O GLOBO, Barbalho said: I cannot ignore the UDR. The government tried to ignore the Pastoral Land Commission [CPT] in the past. A few days after being sworn in, Barbalho said he hopes the PMDB will support the national land reform program. The minister, Para State governor from 1983 to 1987—he owns 6,000 hectares of land in Para—believes that government land reform must be implemented in such a way so as not to instigate land conflicts that encourage the owners of small- and medium-sized holdings to act as "a shield for major landowners."

O GLOBO: When you were sworn in, you said you would try to quell violence in rural areas. You were governor of the state that had, and still has, the highest number of land conflicts. How do you plan to control violence throughout the country?

Barbalho: When I talk about quelling violence I am talking about balancing the problems affecting the rural sector, and about expediting the national agrarian reform plan with a view toward reducing violence.

O GLOBO: What is your reaction to the criticism from the CONTAG (National Confederation of Farmworkers) and the CPT (Pastoral Land Commission) that violence increased during your term as governor?

Barbalho: I think there has been a misinterpretation. State governments sometimes have to clear an area with the military policy, in compliance with court orders.

O GLOBO: But there are charges that even in those cases there was police violence.

Barbalho: For a governor of a state the size of Para, it is almost impossible to accurately evaluate the situation. However, I can say that during my term, thousands of military policemen were dismissed on several grounds, including excesses of violence.

O GLOBO: Do you think it will be possible to change the emotionally inflamed atmosphere in which the land reform debate has been held?

Barbalho: Yes, because I assumed the post of minister with the hope and with the expectation to move forward. Several interests are involved in this subject, and at times such interests oppose those of the executive branch.

O GLOBO: Why are there more conflicts and more violence in Para?

Barbalho: In the zones known as the new frontier, fiscal incentives were created and major financial facilities were offered. These factors attracted the businessmen from southern Brazil, who competed for cheap land and credit. At the same time, the INCRA [National Institute of Land Reform and Settlement summoned the people to the Amazonian region, which was depicted as an area with "much land and few people." This led to a clash between the immigrants and the capitalist sector. Today we are experiencing the consequences of that economic project.

O GLOBO: You said you can tell a leaseholder from an intruder and a landowner from a squatter. Can you describe each class?

Barbalho: A leaseholder is the one who lives and works in the area. An intruder does something quite different, because he is engaged in the exploitation of timber. He pretends to be a leaseholder, but what he really wants is the timber and he can have the financial support fo the timber companies. The landowner is the person who bought the land in good faith. The squatter is the person who secretly tries to enlarge a land area. And the owner of the unproductive latifundium only wants to keep the land as a real estate reserve. Obviously, the leaseholders deserve consideration and respect.

O GLOBO: Are you a landowner?

Barbalho: I have been a landowner since 1974. I want to make it clear that I do not oppose the right of ownership, which is upheld by the current Constitution and which will be upheld by the new constitution. My objective as Agrarian Reform minister will be to turn as many Brazilians as possible into landowners. This is the objective of land reform. Some radical sectors have failed to realize that by instigating the struggle in an incorrect way, they have promoted an alliance between the major landowners and the owners of small- and medium-size properties. These small- and medium-size landowners have been frightened and who now serve as a shield for major Brazilian landowners.

O GLOBO: What are your landholdings?

Barbalho: I own the Poliana Ranch in Sao Domingo do Capim. That is a little over 2,000 hectares. I also own the Rio Branco Ranch, in Sao Miguel do Guama, with a bit over 3,000 hectares. The two ranches together have approximately 6,000 hectares. Both properties are productive holdings: In one of them I grow rubber trees, and in the other one I have a cacao plantation. O GLOBO: How do you feel being the first minister to be praised by the UDR and criticised by labor organizations?

Barbalho: I am not committed to any ideological group. The only commitment I have assumed is with President Sarney, to set in motion the National Land Reform Program, PNRA [Programa Nacional de Reforma Agraria]. As a public official, it is my duty to listen to those who want to cooperate or disagree. If the UDR asks me for an audience, I will receive them. I can disagree with what I hear, but I cannot ignore them, which is something that the government tried to do in the past in connection with the CPT.

O GLOBO: What is a radical position from the viewpoint of land reform?

Barbalho: The radical attitude is the emotionally inflamed position and they refuse to grant any concessions or reconsider views.

O GLOBO: Is an indiscriminate invasion of land a radical position?

Barbalho: It depends on the invader. The invasion can be manipulated. In this case, the responsibility does not lie with the farmer who has been persuaded to act. There can be an invasion, in good faith, of public land, or an invasion because of a desperate situation. What I cannot admit is the manipulated invasion that seeks to create political conflicts.

O GLOBO: Is the deployment of policemen or gunmen to fight leaseholders in a state a radical position?

Barbalho: I think it is absurd and I would not recommend that anyone resort to that type of measure, with which I disagree.

O GLOBO: Why hasn't land reform been implemented yet?

Barbalho: The reform involves several factors. Some people think the executive branch has more powers than it really does. The courts still have to pass judgment in cases involving approximately 1,000,000 hectares.

O GLOBO: Your predecessors in the ministerial post complained about the lack of effective support from the PMDB. What do you expect from your party? Barbalho: I am a PMDB man and I expect my party to support me, particularly with the land reform program, taking into account that land reform has been one of the main party concerns.

Chile

Foreign Minister Returns from UNGA Meeting

PY022107 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish
1700 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia Rodriguez returned to Santiago this morning after having attended the UN General Assembly. At the airport he said he complied with the mission assigned to him by the president of the Republic. He did not wish to make any further comment because he said he had to report to President Pinochet first.

At the journalists' insistence, Garcia said it must be understood that the UN General Assembly lasts longer than the few days he was in the United States. It lasts several months, during which many subjects have to be discussed. He said he participated in a debate that is already known to the media.

Asked about Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal's speech in which he discussed his country's landlocked problem, Garcia said the speech must be regarded from the point of view of the UN General Assembly. It was only one of many speeches given at the Assembly, and Chile replied by explaining the situation clearly, he said.

The foreign minister said the convention against torture signed by Chile at the 42d UN General Assembly and at the OAS headquarters in Washington must be processed appropriately. He explained that the two documents must now be ratified by the legislative branch before they can be enforced in Chile.

Garcia also discussed his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He said this meeting was held within the framework of scheduled meetings he held with several foreign ministers and of bilateral U.S.-Chilean relations.

Garcia told reporters he did not discuss with the Spanish foreign minister Chile's request for the extradition from Spain of Cesar Bunster, who is accused of having participated in the attack against Pinochet. He said Chile always obeys the law, and the request is based on legal mechanisms. Therefore, it must be understood and responded to in light of the evidence presented by the Chilean military court. And this, the minister said, must be carried out within the legal framework of Spain and Chile. He added that Chile will probably insist on the granting of this petition, but he did not report any final conclusion because he still does not have all the information of the case.

Finally, the foreign minister referred to the visit that the UN observer for human rights violations, Fernando Volio, wishes to make to Chile. I have just learned of this request, he said, so I must study it first.

It was learned that Volio has asked the government for permission to visit our country again. He made this request to Chilean Ambassador Mario Calderon, whom he met in Geneva, Switzerland, last August. The UN observer has already presented five reports on Chile to the UN Human Rights Committee. These reports have to be translated and published. Volio is currently preparing his sixth study of the Chilean situation, which he must present to the UN Human Rights Committee in early 1988 in Geneva.

Briefs Pinochet

PY052133 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1700 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia has disclosed that the Chilean Government has reiterated its petition to the Spanish Government for the extradition of terrorist Cesar Bunster Ariztiz who played an important role in the attempt to assassinate President Augusto Pinochet. This information was disclosed at the end of Minister Garcia's meeting with President Pinochet, to whom he gave a detailed report on his participation at the UN General Assembly.

The foreign minister said that, in general terms, they managed to strengthen bilateral relations with the 21 [number as heard] countries represented at the mentioned international meeting.

When asked about his meeting at this forum with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Garcia said that to some extent they discussed the Letelier case. He noted that the Chilean and the U.S. Governments are very interested in settling this matter.

Garcia then said that the United States shares the Chilean desire to establish a sound, stable, and lasting democracy. [passage omitted]

When asked about bilateral relations with Argentina, the foreign minister said that we maintain permanent friendship ties that continue to be consolidated and to grow.

Regarding UN special observer Fernando Volio's request to visit Chile again, Garcia said that the request is being analyzed and that an official decision by the Foreign Ministry will be disclosed shortly.

PDC Denies Presenting Presidential Hopefuls

PY031843 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2231 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Text] Santiago, 1 Oct (EFE)—Christian Democratic Party [PDC] President Patricio Aylwin today denied that the PDC has presented four presidential candidates, and he said that the PDC board has no intention of presenting presidential candidates.

Aylwin said he does not know who wrote the report published in *La Epoca*, a daily with ties to the Christian Democracy [DC].

According to the morning newspaper, the opposition candidates were Eduardo Frei Ruiz Tagle, son of former President Eduardo Frei Montalva; former Foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes; former Finance Minister Sergio Molina; and former International Christian Democracy President Andres Zaldivar.

The PDC president pointed out that his party "has not begun to discuss candidates, only the policies to be adopted in choosing them."

Aylwin emphasized that the PDC "does not intend to impose a program or a candidate. It only wants to discuss with the other political parties the drafting of a common program and the appointment of a common candidate to express the feelings and ideas of all of us."

Asked by the media whether or not the presidential candidate must be a Christian Democrat, Aylwin said it is not absolute because "we still must hold talks with all parties, and names have not been suggested yet."

Former Senator Andres Zaldivar also denied the report published by *La Epoca*, and pointed out that this is not the time to worry about candidates.

According to the current Constitution, the Armed Forces will propose the name of a presidential candidate for the 1989-97 term. Only if the majority of Chileans reject the proposed name in the plebiscite will there be direct, multiparty elections in 1990.

Because the opposition is opposed to holding a plebiscite, it proposed replacing it with direct presidential elections. The opposition has thus launched a campaign in favor of free elections, although it will have to give up the idea of free elections and merely vote against the name proposed by the Armed Forces if the regime insists on holding a plebiscite.

Meanwhile, the DC national secretariat confirmed that "all DC members have agreed to" take all necessary steps to register the PDC and to collect signatures to make the party legal, according to the terms of the current Constitution.

The secretariat made this statement because several DC leaders have publicly rejected the decision to register the PDC in accordance with the Pinochet regime's imposition.

The faction led by former Deputy Richard Hormozabal, which opposed the registration of the party, was defeated at the last DC meeting held at the end of July. During this meeting, former Senator Patricio Aylwin was elected to the DC board.

In the opinion of the DC members who oppose the idea of registering the party, the PDC regional and national boards must again vote on the issue of collecting signatures.

Free Elections Rally Held in Valparaiso

PY051416 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0004 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Santiago, 4 Oct (EFE)—Fifty thousand inhabitants of the Valparaiso seaport, 119 km northwest of Santiago, met over the weekend to register in the Electoral Court registries and join the campaign for free elections.

The rally, called "A Party for Democracy," was sponsored by the three committees promoting the campaign for free elections that have been established by the political parties that oppose the Pinochet regime. About 1,000 volunteers marched through many Valparaiso neighborhoods carrying placards, wearing T-shirts, and distributing information booklets and pamphlets announcing the campaign for free elections. [passage omitted].

Socialist Party leader Ricardo Lagos said that opposition parties are currently drafting an alternative system to control election returns.

Lagos regretted the attitude of the PCCh, which took advantage of the occasion to distribute pamphlets calling for a general strike on 7 October, despite the agreement achieved with Valparaiso leftist sectors to not interfere in the day for free elections rally.

United Left Calls for Day of Democracy

PY052100 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The United Left has called on the people to join a great national day for democracy on 24 October. It has also supported the activities sponsored by the National Worker Command for 7 October. This announcement was made by MAPU [United Popular Action Movement] leader Juan Manuel Parra.

[Begin Parra recording] On 24 October, this command [not further identified] wants to organize a national day for democracy in the main Chilean provinces and communities, with the help of all the existing commands for free elections. This decision has special significance for the people and for the democratic sectors, because it will

mark the anniversary of the confirmation by Congress of the election of Salvador Allende as Chilean president on 24 October 1970. That congressional decision reflected sound support for democracy and respect for the majority and the minority. The 24 October also marks the painful anniversary of the murder of General Schneider. [end recording]

Juan Manuel Parra outlined the activities that will be carried out during the national day for democracy, during which information will be distributed house to house on the need for free elections and on the need to register at the electoral registries.

[Begin Parra recording, in progress] ...will mean the dissemination of the manifesto or the letter for democracy, which will reflect the existing platforms. This also means the beginning of meetings between democratic leaders, which are being held at a local level in search of our own platforms and for alternatives for the people. This will be done in each town, in each province. It means a day of coexistence, a day to meet and to communicate with one another, a day of artistic activities, a day on which national party leaders will be at each one of the chosen places. [end recording]

Juan Manuel Parra voiced the United Left support for the stoppage called by the National Worker Command, and he delivered a set of instructions for the activities to be carried out during the stoppage.

FPMR Bombs Deactivated; No Casualties

PY060134 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Carabineros experts this afternoon deactivated four booby traps that members of the terrorist Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] had planted at Plaza Nunoa. In a propaganda action, the terrorists set up banners with political slogans, planting four bombs that were to go off when the banners were removed. Warned by Plaza Nunoa residents, police experts deactivated the bombs. No casualties were reported.

Colombia

Minister Replies to Guerrilla Proposals

PA051907 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpt] The government today replied to the proposals made last week by an united front of guerrillas. Government Minister Cesar Gaviria spoke to this newscast about this subject. The merger of the guerrilla groups in a guerrilla coordinating board is a setback for the peace process, Government Minister Cesar Trujillo said today when he opened a new meeting of governors convened by President Virgilio Barco Vargas in Narino Palace. However, the minister clarified that the government has not issued an ultimatum to the guerrillas, and that it remains open for a dialogue, but on the condition that the groups that want to incorporate themselves into the country's life will disarm and demobilize themselves:

[Begin Gaviria recording] What concerns the government is that there is a setback in the Uribe agreements because of what is stated in the communique. As I have stated, in the Uribe agreements, there is clear condemnation of all practices of terrorism, kidnapping, and extortion. The communique does not even mention them. It is also said that the government has issued an ultimatum to FARC. At no time has the government issued an ultimatum. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Minister Views Prospects for Trade With Cuba

PA031634 Bogota Inravision Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Londono Paredes held talks at the UN General Assembly to strengthen commercial relations with Cuba and to promote the peace process in Central America. He was interviewed by Antonio Jose Cabelleros.

[Begin recording] [Londono] We are taking advantage of this opportunity to discuss with the Contadora and Support Groups' foreign ministers and with the Central American foreign ministers the steps that will be followed in the Central American peace process. These days have been busy. I believe the result is positive.

Regarding matters of common interest, Cuba has been considering the possibility of increasing trade with Colombia. Cuba has expressed interest in Colombian products.

[Caballeros] Did you receive aid proposals for Medellin?

[Londono] Yes. Foreign Ministers from many countries of the world stated the willingness of their respective countries to cooperate with emergency aid to resolve the problem. [end recording]

Paraguay

Colorado Official on U.S. Non-Intervention

PY040259 Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish 3 Oct 87 p 9

[Text] "The United States is governed by intelligent people, and it must understand that President Alfredo Stroessner has the democratic support of the Paraguayan people and the unwavering loyalty of the Armed Forces and the police. I do not believe the United States is thinking of intervening in Paraguay, and least of all against President Stroessner." This was stated by the head of the Popular and National Movement, who headed a ticket at the 1 August Colorado Party convention that elected a new Colorado Party Executive Board.

Twelve thousand Colorado Party members, mostly from the central area of the country, attended the meeting, at which Prieto Yegros said he believed the United States "will not intervene against Gen Stroessner's government," because they are intelligent people and they cannot "deny the Paraguayan reality."

La Tarde learned that Prieto Yegros had spoken with U.S. Ambassador Clyde Taylor in Asuncion a few hours before leaving for Tobati, where he emphatically said he did not see the remotest possibility of a U.S. intervention in Paraguay or against Stroessner.

La Tarde asked Prieto Yegros why he repeated those statements, and he answered that "it was due to a rumor about possible external pressure or international interests demanding answers."

Prieto Yegros added that "Stroessner is the national leader and has the support of the Paraguayan nation," and this has to be understood by the United States. He also spoke of his decision to continue supporting before the Colorado Party and Paraguayan people the proposal to reelect Alfredo Stroessner in the upcoming general elections of February 1988.

"I advise everyone to continue voting for peace and greatness," Prieto Yegros concluded.

PATRIA Editorial on Abrams,Human Rights

PY022153 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 28 Sep 87 p 7

[Editorial: "What Mr Abrams Should Know"]

[Text] We do not know if it has occurred to Mr Elliott Abrams' dutiful and confidential informers in Paraguay to make a list of leaders of all the parties, factions, movements, groups, and dissident organizations, which are being mentioned every day by the yellow journalists, in order to establish the number of those leaders, their activities, their standard of living, their clubs, their preferred entertainments and amusements, and their relationship with the government, public administration, political parties, banks, industry, commerce, insurance companies, and other financial entities.

If they failed to do this, then they are inferior and obsolete scouts for Mr Abrams or else they have a partisan spirit, fully joining the irregular minorities which prefer the collusion of "fronts," "agreements," "alliances," and will not participate in the elections until someone encourages them to choose this "revolutionary alternative," because they do not stand the slightest chance in a democratic struggle among parties.

All the liberals who are not members of the parties (Liberal Party and Radical Liberal Party) participating in the elections are aware that outside these parties they would not go far. The Febreristas are aware of their small membership, and they do not want to demonstrate this in elections. The Christian Democrats oppose the law that would bring them regular party status because they know they do not meet minimum requirements. Concerning the rest of the parties, they are nothing but residual and marginal trash.

This is a clear-cut political picture, without considering contingencies that would change things, because this is not our people's way of life (in Paraguay, whoever changes his party is a damned turncoat [oyere]). Thus, it is simply a matter of identifying the leaders, investigating their activities, and then assessing the situation. This task, which we are proposing to Mr Abrams' inferior scouts, is not very difficult and is not off the beaten track. They only need to tour San-Ber [San Bernardino, a summer resort town 50 km from Asuncion], the Cente [Centenario Club, an elite club in downtown Asuncion], or the Yacht [an elite club in Ita Enramada, an Asuncion suburb] in the summer season; to go to any fashionable and sophisticated restaurant on Saturday night; or to go to any promotion of books, fashion shows, or art exhibits, and right there, without resorting to detective investigations or any type of secrecy, they will meet the mass of the "victims of cruel political harassment," quoting the conceited and raving utterances of Mr Abrams.

The worst visual defect is not to see "the forest" for "the trees." Then, "the vegetation" is not being assessed but a partiality or a preference for a given "species," or perhaps a given "specimen," is being expressed and this is no longer appropriate for impartial observers or "uncompromising" analysts. Speaking plainly, this is appropriate for "fellow party members," a concept that now, following the "internationals" and under the cloak of "solidarity," a cloak that has been used by the expansionist ideological trends—from Marxism to liberalism—has become very flexible.

At any rate, we want to make it clear that in Paraguay there are no excuses for not viewing things clearly and expressing correct opinions. Everything is simple enough to avoid complications in observing or in passing judgment. Thus, whenever a "blunder" is committed or "babble" is engaged in, as was the case recently with Mr Elliott Abrams, one must find out who was involved in the "skirmish."

Thus, for example, if one is going to blow out of proportion the "difficulties" of an opposition leader, one should not resort to the base recourse of generalizing, which simply means telling lies. If this term seems too strong for the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Inter-American affairs, let us just say a fallacy has been uttered or a trick has been played. Nevertheless, this is an extreme that is not appropriate for the world's foremost computerized power, a power that can film the activities of ants in a garden from a satellite orbiting beyond the moon. Thus, it is even irrational to speak of "a cruel restriction of human and political rights," in a country where everything can be verified to the utmost degree because Paraguay is an open country where one can travel safely in any direction, day or night. In fact, people can travel now as a result of the

geographical integration, stability, and peaceful and orderly coexistence achieved by the Colorado government of President Stroessner. Such was not the case with previous governments, when Paraguay experienced half a century of warlike factionalism.

The arrest of a street agent provocateur, the indictment of some people involved in damaging public property, the preventive measures adopted by the police against preparations for disrespect toward the police, and even occasional reactions of a group to stubborn insults by groups of fanatics, do not justify the unforgivable rashness of such an utterance, which indicates immaturity and thoughtlessness. It even indicates irresponsibility— irresponsibility prompted by arrogance because Mr Abrams perhaps believes there is a great difference between a nuclear warhead and a manioc root. He is wrong, though, because in human terms it may be necessary to swap these values in order to save humanity.

Mr Abrams must know once and for all that in Paraguay there are not any hindrances "for Paraguayan citizens to exercise their basic democratic rights." Even foreigners can exercise their basic democratic rights because all rights are valid and guaranteed, but as provided for by the Constitution and the laws, as is the case with any civilized nation.

Creation of Colorado Party Guard Announced

PY231339 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 23 Sep 87 p 8

[Text] During a "republican brotherhood ceremony" held at the Coronel Oviedo Colorado Party precinct last night, precinct president Dr Luis Adalberto Soto Estigarribia announced the creation of the National Republican Urban Guard in Coronel Oviedo. He said the guard has "more than 2,000 fellow party members" who "have already been tested and deserve our praise for their discipline and total support for the Colorado Party."

He added that the members of the National Republican Urban Guard "are ready to respond whenever the party summons them and to act accordingly. During this ceremony of Colorado republican brotherhood, we want to convey our warmest support to our distinguished friend Juan Ramirez Kohn."

He added that "for some time now, Coronel Oviedo has been the target of subversive activities." He explained that such activity has been reflected in "rallies, panel discussions, and other activities that seek to promote social destabilization and to smear government officials and institutions."

Permission to Hold PLRA Rally Revoked

PY250240 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 24 Sep 87 p 10

[Text] Interior Ministry Under Secretary Dario Filartiga officially confirmed this morning to *Ultima Hora* that the permission granted to the PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party] to hold a rally in Tebicuary-mi has been revoked on the grounds that other events are scheduled there for the same day and time.

The Interior Ministry under secretary said: "The permission granted to the PLRA group, which is not a party, has been revoked because its rally would coincide with other political acts to be held in the same place, on the same day, and at the same time."

He argued that the Interior Ministry has revoked the permission granted to the PLRA in order to avoid possible disturbances.

The Tebicuary-mi Colorado Party chapter firmly opposed the PLRA rally in Tebicuary-mi. They claimed that because this is sugar cane harvest season the rally could disturb the activities in which the local population is currently engaged.

PLRA Members Arrested

PY301835 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 29 Sep 87 p 9

[Excerpts] Manuel Ramirez and Waldino Montes de Oca, president and organization secretary of the JPLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party Youth], respectively, have denounced, to the newspaper *Hoy*, the fact that Ceferino Villalba, Oligorio Caceres, Esteban Ortigoza, Federico Cohene, and Pablino Gimenez, members of the PLRA Alto Parana Department coordinating board, have been arrested. They also reported that Cecilio Prieto, member of the Tebicuary-mi PLRA Committee "has been under arrest at the office of the Paraguari Government represenative since 26 September." [passage omitted]

The JPLRA issued a communique in which it repudiates the arrests and expresses "its categorical protest at the unconstitutional banning" of the political meeting scheduled for 27 September in Tebicuary-mi and the arrest of Domingo Laino, Adalberto Mongelos, Ramon Ferreira, and Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca.

Tebicuary-mi Access Blocked

PY021614 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Sep 87 p 9

[by Celso Chavez and Agustin Acosta]

[Excerpts] Tebicuary-mi—Despite strict control by police and parapolice forces to block access to Tebicuary-mi, PLRA members yesterday improvised to hold two political meetings near Tebicuary-mi. Domingo Laino and Adalberto Mongelos, PLRA president and secretary general, respectively, were unable to attend the meeting because they were arrested before dawn today at the Paraguari Government Representative's office while they were on their way to the original meeting place.

PLRA Vice President Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin, along with his group, was able to avoid police roadblocks deployed on route 1 and thus head one of the meetings. The meetings were held somewhere between Carapegua and Acahay and were attended by approximately 400 persons. [passage omitted]

In view of the impossibility of reaching Tebicuary-mi, another "PLRA group" also improvised to hold a meeting at a site 5 km from Tebicuary-mi. This meeting was attended by about 200 people, who denounced the fact that they have been violently beaten by one of the many police detachments deployed along the access roads to Tebicuary-mi.

In addition, the group arrested in Paraguari, among whom are Miguel Abdon Saguier and Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, was transferred yesterday afternoon to the Penitentiary Police Headquarters. [passage omitted]

Ramon Aquino, president of the 14th Colorado Party Precinct and member of the Colorado Party Executive Board, and his "assault battalion" were among the Colorado groups "guarding" the Tebicuary-mi area. Aboard a special bus, the group toured the area where the PLRA meeting was to be held.

According to what some of Aquino's followers told *El Diario* journalists, "there was no reason to intervene."

Radio Nanduti's Rubin on Debate Suspension

PY031448 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 2 Oct 87 p 8

[Excerpt] Radio Nanduti Director Humberto Rubin, discussing the suspended debate that was to be held on 1 October at the "Jacinto Herrera" theater, said: "We will continue to insist on holding these free debates. We hope the police will eventually leave."

He added: "The debate could not be held for the fifth consecutive time because of a police cordon that blocked access. This is obviously done to harass the people, to stop them from attending the debate, and to warn them of the risk they run if they do attend it." [passage omitted]

Uruguay

Shevardnadze Arrives, Reads Statement

PY052218 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2113 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Oct (EFE) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who today started a 3-day official visit to Montevideo, read a statement before the media in which he conveyed his greeting to Uruguayans, "a people whom we respect" he asserted.

Shevardnadze will remain in Uruguay until next Wednesday, 7 October, when he will end the first tour through Latin America by a Soviet foreign minister. Before arriving in Uruguay, Shevardnadze visited Brazil and Argentina.

Upon his arrival at the Carrasco International Airport from Buenos Aires he was met by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias. The Soviet foreign minister then took part in an inpromptu news conference where he read a statement but did not answer any questions.

Shevardnadze stated that the Soviet Government has always "highly" appraised the independent actions of the Uruguayan state in promoting relations with the Soviet Union.

The foreign minister, who is also a member of the Politburo of the CPSU, noted that Uruguay was the first Latin American country to establish diplomatic relations with the USSR and that "it never glanced back at others and never stood aside waiting for someone else to take the first step to meet us."

Despite the ups and downs and the periods of interruption which everyone "knows about"—referring to the Uruguayan military government (1973-85)—"we have traveled a long path together," he said.

The Soviet minister asserted that Uruguayan-USSR relations "have a solid foundation in the past, and have a strong basis today."

Shevardnadze noted that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Uruguayan president Julio Maria Sanguinetti "maintain permanent contact."

Shevardnadze said that the USSR and Uruguay maintain an "active and broad" exchange at various levels and that "personally, I will be very pleased" to continue talks with my "colleague" Mr Enrique Iglesias.

The Soviet minister termed as "high" the prestige that Uruguay enjoys in the continent and asserted that "we will listen with great attention and interest" to the opinions of Uruguayans.

Shevardnadze also praised the Uruguayan democracy "which is noted for its creative principles, its fine innovative sense, and knowledge of the limits of what is possible."

In the last portion of his statement, the Soviet foreign minister conveyed a greeting to the Uruguayan people, "a people whom we respect and with whom we live in harmony."

This afternoon Shevardnadze will meet with Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti to whom he will deliver a personal message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

During Shevardnadze's stay in Montevideo, the USSR and Uruguay will sign an economic, cultural, scientific and technical agreement which expands the agreement signed in July 1986 when Foreign Minister Iglesias, the first Uruguayan foreign minister to go to the USSR, visited Moscow.

At the same time the authorities of the two countries will continue analyzing a fishing agreement and will investigate the drop in Uruguayan imports of Soviet goods, which have decreased from $100 billion in 1980 to $23 million in 1986.

Meets With Sanguinetti

PY052313 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 2242 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has met for longer than expected by Uruguayan authorities with President Julio Maria Sanguinetti. The meeting, which was held within the framework of the visit Shevardnadze is currently paying to Uruguay, lasted for 1 hour and 35 minutes.

Sanguinetti and Shevardnadze undoubtedly discussed very important subjects such as issues related to international problems, the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons, the preservation of outer space, and the possibilities of overcoming economic difficulties on the bases of a new international economic order. During the meeting the two authorities also discussed matters related to USSR-Uruguayan relations. In this regard Shevardnadze said that they share points of view regarding the development of bilateral relations, which are running smoothly, but are not taking advantage of the potential.

They also discussed President Sanguinetti's upcoming visit to Moscow scheduled for early 1988.

Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias also referred to these issues at the end of the meeting. He said that it had been a frank meeting in which the aforementioned international issues were openly discussed.

Iglesias also mentioned that Shevardnadze had delivered to President Sanguinetti a message from Mikhail Gorbachev. Sanguinetti will answer the message during Shevardnadze's stay in Uruguay; that is, before next Wednesday 7 October.

Sanguinetti To Visit Moscow

PY060201 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Today President Luis Maria Sanguinetti met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Sheverdnadze said they had a very friendly meeting, and discussed subjects related to international problems, the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons, the preservation of outer space, and the economic problems that must be solved on the basis of a new institutional order.

[Begin recording] [Shevardnadze, in Russian with sentence-by-sentence translation into Spanish] We have just held a very important meeting with the president. I can tell you it was a very interesting, profound, and open talk.

[Reporter's question indistinct]

[Shevardnadze] Because we discussed very important issues. We talked about international relations, the problem of war and peace, disarmament, and the fact that disarmament and development are directly and organically linked. We even talked about the debt problem and, naturally, devoted a lot of time to problems related to bilateral relations. We also talked about the president's possible visit to the Soviet Union in the near future. We foreign ministers will be in charge of arranging this important visit. [end recording]

President Julio Sanguinetti's visit to Moscow should take place in early 1988. This was confirmed by Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias, who said the meeting between Sanguinetti and Shevardnadze was marked by sincertiy, and that they openly discussed current international issues such as the Central American policy, the current Latin American situation in general, and the world economic situation.

[Begin Iglesias recording] As the minister has just stated, the meeting was very open and lasted much longer than we expected because important subjects related to the current international situation were discussed openly in an informal manner. As the minister said, we discussed the serious problems affecting current Soviet foreign policy, which have such force and importance in international relations. We discussed several issues, but I would say one of the most important was Mikhail Gorbachev's personal written message that Minister Shevardnadze delivered to President Sanguinetti. President Sanguinetti will answer this message during the foreign minister's stay in Uruguay, which is very important for the direct dialogue between the two leaders. [end recording]

Shevardnadze Meets With Jews

PY060118 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] In an unusual occurrence, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze talked with Jews in front of the Soviet Embassy in Montevideo. Following his meeting with President Julio Sanguinetti at the Libertad Building tonight, Shevardnadze headed for the Soviet Embassy, in front of which a group of Jews was waiting for him, demanding that Jews in the USSR be allowed to leave

freely and without restrictions. They also demanded an end to anti-Semitic actions and discriminatory practices against young Jews at Soviet advanced education institutions.

Shevardnadze got out of his car and talked with the demonstrators, to whom he described the views of his government on these subjects.

Discusses Immigration

PY061233 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has stated that the Soviet Union intends to resolve the issue of Jews living in the USSR and that in keeping with this, it will promote measures that will help Jewish immigration.

Shevardnadze made this statement to Pedro Shofsky, chairman of the Uruguayan Jewish Central Committee, during a demonstration that about 1,000 Jews held yesterday in front of the Soviet Embassy in Montevideo to protest the situation of Jews in the USSR.

Upon becoming aware of the demonstration, Shevardnadze, in an unusual gesture, stepped out of the embassy and talked for about 15 minutes with several of the demonstrators, mainly with Pedro Shofsky.

Shofsky stated that Shevardnadze told him he wanted to explain the USSR's policy regarding Jews living in his country. The Soviet foreign minister added that the USSR intends to resolve the Jewish situation and that in view of this it will promote measures that will allow the immigration of Soviet Jews who do not want to live in the USSR.

Shevardnadze added that there are no political prisoners in the USSR and admitted that in some cases it is difficult to grant exit visas to those who want to immigrate.

Shofsky told Shevardnadze that they were holding a peaceful demonstration in front of the Soviet Embassy to express support for the Jews living in the USSR. Shofsky also expressed his wish that the announcements Shevardnadze just made were not mere rhetoric.

Shevardnadze invited Shofsky to visit the USSR to verify for himself that what he said is true. On behalf of the Uruguayan Jewish community, Shofsky accepted his invitation.

Shofsky also told Shevardnadze that the USSR could play an important role in achieving peace in the Middle East but that in order to reach this objective, it would first have to recognize the Jewish state and resolve the problem affecting Jews living in the USSR.

Jewish Leader Comments

PY061305 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0340 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Oct (EFE)—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze today talked with representatives of the Uruguayan Jewish community who were holding a demonstration in front of the Soviet Embassy in Montevideo.

According to the organizers of the event, about 1,000 people attended a peaceful demonstration in front of the Soviet Embassy. Pedro Shofsky, chairman of the Uruguayan-Israeli Central Committee, told EFE that the demonstration was "to reassert our solidarity with our brothers in the USSR."

Shevardnadze, who is on an official visit in Uruguay, walked out of the embassy, where a few minutes later he was scheduled to host a reception in honor of Uruguayan authorities, and talked for 15 minutes with a Shofsky-led delegation that represented the demonstrators.

Shofsky told EFE that "the foreign minister told us that he is aware of the issue (concerning the Soviet Jews) and that the USSR has begun an opening policy aimed at resolving the situation of all those who want to immigrate from the USSR and which will allow all those who remain in the USSR to practice their religion."

Shevardnadze was accompanied by Igor Laptev, the Soviet ambassador to Uruguay, and members of his entourage "among whom I believe were some Soviet journalists," said Shofsky.

Shofsky added: "We appreciate this gesture, but we do not want mere rhetoric. We hope his statement is put into practice."

Shofsky told Shevardnadze: "We view with concern the lack of diplomatic relations between Israel and the USSR." Shofsky said that the establishment of diplomatic relations, and the solution of the problem of Jews in the USSR, are indispensable so that the USSR "may play its proper role" in the resolution of the Middle East crisis.

According to Shofsky, Shevardnadze invited the representatives of the Uruguayan-Israeli Central Committee to visit the USSR.

The demonstration held by Uruguayan Jews, who have a local colony of 50,000, ended without incident.

Shevardnadze arrived today in Montevideo on an official 3-day visit, the first visit that a member of the Soviet Government has paid to Uruguay.

Today Shevardnadze held meetings with President Julio Maria Sanguinetti and with Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias.

Suriname

Bouterse Addresses UN General Assembly

Discusses Democratization

FL052058 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Last Friday, government leader Desi Bouterse addressed the 42d General Assembly of the United Nations. [Name indistinct] made the following report:

Government leader Desi Bouterse informed the world Friday last about the developments in the democratization process in Suriname during a 25-minute speech in the General Assembly of the United Nations. The commander said it was an honor to inform the world about the results of the recently held referendum which he said was a unique moment in the history of Suriname. For the first time, Surinamese decided on their own constitution.

In his General Assembly speech, the Surinamese government leader also paid attention to the terrorist activities in Suriname. He called upon supporting foreign powers to stop their aid to the terrorists who are damaging the Surinamese economy in a senseless fight.

Furthermore, the government leader made the call for stopping apartheid in South Africa and support for the process of dialogue to settle the problems in Latin America.

Government leader Bouterse in his speech before the UN General Assembly also paid attention to some world problems and informed the world public about the opinions of the Suriname Government. Your attention now for government leader Desi Bouterse:

[Begin recording] My friends, distinguished members, there is trouble all around us, brother is fighting brother in the Middle East, Asia, Central America. Repression continues in its most barbaric forms in southern Africa and is inevitable and so far most representative of this General Assembly should have dealt with these majors in the national crisis. [sentence as heard] And while the scope and nature of these crises would justify any lengthy discussion [words indistinct] for this occasion by referring to our contributions at previous assemblies.

The Government of Suriname commends the efforts of the Central American presidents to bring about a regional peace treaty. We wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of the Security Council and of Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to find a peaceful solution to the conflict in the Gulf.

Mr President, like the rest of the world, Suriname has welcomed the concrete steps taken by the superpowers toward the lessening of the [words indistinct] threat. But achievement of any form of international peace can only be sustained if the resources thus released are used for recreating international economic order. The suffering part of mankind cannot find relief in the absence of [words indistinct] alone. The leading members of the international community can guide the world toward a more stable and lasting peace.Your world should not be used as a political tool to force compliance with your policies and/or appearance to your beliefs. [sentence as heard] If your positions are sound and well founded, time will bear it out. Aid for development is the key to unlock the cultural, historical, and of course economic riches which so many of our countries possess, but which lie unexplored and unutilized.

And the misunderstanding which plagues so much of the international arena, the political aggression which manifests itself in violence and the economic plight which threatens not only the smallest of the nations but the entire world community are merely symptoms of unwillingness to compromise with peoples of different minds. [end recording]

You have just listened to statements of government leader Desi Bouterse who last Friday addressed the 42d General Assembly of the United Nations. In his General Assembly speech, the Surinamese Government leader paid attention to the terrorist activities in Suriname. He called upon supporting foreign powers to stop their aid to terrorists who are damaging the Surinamese economy in a senseless fight. Furthermore, the government leader made a call for stopping apartheid in South Africa and support of the process of dialogue to settle the problems in Latin America. Government leader Desi Bouterse in a speech before the UN General Assembly also paid attention to some world problems and informed the world public about opinions of the Surinamese Government.

Urges Rebel Aid Halt

FL052120 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] In his speech before the United Nations, government leader Bouterse called for the immediate stop to the support of violence in Suriname.

He showed that under the pretext of democracy foreign powers support senseless, violent action while these same actions frustrate the just start of the democratization process. Bouterse qualified these actions as one of the obstacles the Surinamese people have to overcome on the way to democracy.

The commander said Suriname will do everything to repatiate the evacuees from French Guiana.

Army To Respect Elections

FL052130 Paramaribo International Servicein English1730 GMT5 Oct 87

[Text] Government leader Bouterse made public the views of the Surinamese people on the new constitution last Friday night in his speech before the United

Nations. He said it was an honor to fulfill the promise made 7 years ago to present to the world a free and democratic republic of Suriname.

In his half-hour speech, Bouterse went back to 1980 when the revolution started with the intention to eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism. The new constitution is a milestone in this process and gets its power and value from the broadcast participation by political, economic, and social groups in Suriname's history.

The government leader stated further that after the 25 November elections an era of civil government will start and that the Army will respect the results of the election.

Fighting Reported on Referendum Day

FL052205 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] About 10 terrorists attacked the military post at Mongotapce in the east of Suriname on the referendum day last Wednesday. The National Army was able to repel this attack.

One terrorist died, while neither deaths nor casualties were reported on the side of the Army. In the mopping up operations after the attack, the Army confiscated a number of weapons. The dead body of the terrorist has been in meantime brought to Paramaribo.

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